

THE
HISTORY OF
HENRIE THE
FOURTH;

With the battell at Shrewsburie,
*betweene the King and Lord Henry
Percy, surnamed Henry Hot-
spur of the North,*

*With the humorous conceits of Sir
Iohn Falstaffe.*

Newly corrected by *W. Shake-speare.*



AT LONDON,

Printed by S. S. for *Andrew Wise*, dwelling
in Paules Churchyard, at the signe of
the Angell. 1599.

LIST OF

THE

FOR

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

...

AT

...

...

...



THE HISTORIE OF Henry the fourth.

*Enter the King, Lord Iohn of Lancaster, Earle
of Westmerland, with others.*

King.



O shaken as we are, so wan with care,
Find we a time for frighted peace to pant,
And breath short winded accēts of new broils
To be commenc't in stronds a far remote:
No more the thirsty entrance of this soile
Shal dawbe her lips with her owne childrens
No more shall trenching war channel her fields, (blood,
Nor bruise her flourets with the armed hooves
Of hostile paces: those opposed eyes,
Which like the meteors of a troubled heauen,
All of one nature, of one substance bred,
Did lately meete in the intestine shocke
And furious close of ciuill butcherie,
Shall now in mutuall welbeseeming rancks,
March all one way, and be no more oppos'd
Against acquaintance, kindred and allyes,
The edge of war, like an ill sheathed knife,
No more shall cut his master: therefore friends,
As far as to the sepulchre of Christ,
Whose souldiour now, vnder whose blessed crosse
We are impressed and ingag'd to fight,
Forthwith a power of English shall we leuy,
Whose armes were moulded in their mothers wombe,
To chase these Pagans in those holy fields,
Ouer whose acres walkt those blessed feet,

The Historie

Which 1400. yeers ago were haild,
For our aduantage on the bitter crosse.
But this our purpose now is twelue month old,
And bootlesse t'is to tell you we wil goe.
Therefore we meet not now then let me heare
Of you my gentle Coosen Westmerland,
What yester night our Counsell did decree
In forwarding this deere expedience.

West. My liege, this halte was hot in question,
And many limits of the charge set downe
But yesternight, when all athwart there came
A post from Wales, loaden with heavy newes,
Whose worst was that the noble Mortimer,
Leading the men of Herdforshire to fight
Against the irregular, and wild Glendower,
Was by the rude hands of that Welchman taken,
A thousand of his people butchered,
Vpon whose dead corps there was such misuse,
Such beastly shamelesse transformation
By those Welchwomen done, as may not be
Without much shame, retold, or spoken of.

King. It seemesthen that the tidings of this broile,
Brake off our businesse for the holy Land.

West. This matcht with other did my gracious L.
For more vneuen and vnwelcome newes
Came from the North, and thus it did import,
On holy-roode day, the gallant Hotspur there,
Yong Harry Percy, and braue Archibold,
That euer valiant and approued Scot,
At Holmedon met, where they did spend
A sad and bloody houre:
As by discharge of their artillery,
And shape of likelihood the newes was told:
For he that brought them in the very heat
And pride of their contention, did take horse
Vncertaine of the issue any way.

King. Here is deare, a true industrious friend,
Sir Walter Blunt, new lighted from his horse,

Stain'd

of Henry the fourth.

Stain'd with the variation of each soile,
Betwixt that Holmedon, and this seate of ours :
And he hath brought vs smoothe and welcome newes,
The Earle of Douglas is discomfited,
Ten thousand bold Scots, two and twentie knights
Balkt in their owne blood. Did sir Walter see
On Holmedons plaines, of prisoners Hotspur rooke
Mordake Earle of Fife, and eldest sonne
To beaten Douglas, and the Earle of Athol,
Of Murrey, Angus, and Menteth.
And is not this an honorable spoile?
A gallant prize? Ha coosen, is it not? In faith it is.

West. A conquest for a Prince to boast of.

King. Yea, there thou mak'st me sad, and mak'st me sinne
In enuy, that my Lord Northumberland
Should be the father to so blest a sonne :
A sonne who is the theame of honors tongue,
Amongst a groue the very straightest plant,
Who is sweet fortunes minion and her pride,
Whilst I by looking on the praise of him
See ryot and dishonour staine the brow
Of my yong Harry. O that it could be prou'd
That some night-tripping fairy had exchang'd
In cradle clothes our children where they lay,
And cal'd mine Percy, his Plantagenet,
Then would I haue his Harry, and he mine :
But let him from my thoughts. What thinke you coosen
Of this young Percies pride? The prisoners
Which he in this aduenture hath surpriz'd
To his owne vse, he keepes and sends me word,
I shall haue none but Mordake Earle of Fife.

West. This is his vncles teaching. This is Worcester,
Maleuolent to you in all aspects,
Which makes him prune himselfe, and bristle vp
The crest of youth against your dignitie.

King. But I haue sent for him to answer this :
And for this cause, a while we must neglect
Our holy purpose to Ierusalem.

The Historie

Coosen, on wednesday next our Counsel we will hold
At Windsor, so informe the Lordes :
But come your selfe with speed to vs againe,
For more is to be said and to be done,
Then out of anger can be vttered.

West. I will, my hege.

Exeunt.

Enter prince of Wales & Sir Iohn Falstaffe.

Fals. Now *Hal*, what time of day is it lad ?

Prince. Thou art so fat-witted with drinking of olde sacke,
and vnbuttoning thee after supper, and sleeping vpon benches
after noone; that thou hast forgotten to demaund that truly
which thou wouldest truly know. What a deuill hast thou to
doe with the time of the day ? vnles houres were cups of sacke,
and minutes capons, and clockes the tongues of Baudes, and
Dialles the signes of leaping houses, and the blessed sunne him-
selfe a faire hot wench in flame-coulered taffata; I see no rea-
son why thou shouldest be superfluous to demaunde the time
of the day.

Fals. Indeede you come neere mee nowe *Hal*, for wee that
take purses, goe by the moone and the seuen starres, and not by
Phoebus, he, that wandring knight so faire : and I prethe sweete
wag, when thou art king, as God saue thy grace : maiestie I
should say, for grace thou wilt haue none.

Prince. What none ?

Fals. No, by my troth, not so much as will serue to bee pro-
logue to an egge and butter.

Prince. Well, how then ? come roundly, roundly.

Fals. Mary then, sweet wag, when thou art king, let not vs
that are squires of the nights body, bee called the eues of the
dayes beautie : let vs bee *Dianats* forresters, gentlemen of the
shade, mimons of the moone, and let men say, wee bee men of
good gouernement, being gouerned as the sea is, by our noble
and chaste mistresse the moone, vnder whose countenance we
steale.

Prince. Thou saiest well, and it holds wel too, for the fortune
of vs that are the moones men, doth ebbe and flow like the sea,
being gouerned as the sea is by the moone, as for prooffe. Now
a purse

of Henry the fourth.

a purse of gold most resolutely snatcht on Munday night, and most dissolutely spent on Tuesday morning, got with swearing, lay by, and spent with crying, bring in, now in as low an ebbe as the foot of the ladder, and by and by in as high a flow as the ridge of the gallows.

Fals. By the Lord thou saist true lad, and is not my hostesse of the tauerne a most sweet wenche?

Prin. As the hony of *Hibla* my old lad of the castle, and is not a buffe Jerkin a most sweet robe of durance?

Fals. How now, how now mad wagge, what, in thy quips and thy quiddities? what a plague haue I to doe with a butte Jerkin?

Prince. Why what a poxe haue I to doe with my hostesse of the tauerne?

Fals. Well, thou hast cald her to a reckoning many a time and oft,

Prince. Did I euer call for thee to pay thy part?

Fals. No, ile giue thee thy due, thou hast paid all there.

Prin. Yea and else where, so far as my coyne would stretch, and where it would not I haue vsed my credit.

Fals. Yea, and so vs'd it, that were it not here apparant that thou art heire apparant. But I prethe sweet wag, shall there bee gallowes standing in England when thou art king? and resolution thus subd as it is with the rustie curbe of old father Anticke the law, doe not thou when thou art king hang a theefe.

Prince. No, thou shalt.

Fals. Shall I? O rare; by the Lord ile be a braue iudge.

Prince. Thou iudgetst false already, I meane thou shalt haue the hanging of the theeues, and so become a rare hangman.

Fals. Well, *Hal*, well, and in some sort it iumpes with my humour, as well as waiting in the Court I can tell you.

Prince. For obtaining of suites?

Fals. Yea, for obtaining of suites, whereof the hangman hath no leane wardrob. Zblood I am as malancholy as a gyb Cat, or a lugs Beare.

Prince. Or an old Lyon, or a louers Lute.

Fals. Yea, or the drone of a Lincolnshire bagpipe.

Prince. What sayest thou to a Hare, or the malancholy of Mooredurch?

The Historie

Mooreditch?

Fals. Thou hast the most vnfauory smiles, and art indeed the most comparatiue rascallest sweet yong Prince. But *Hal*, I prethe trouble me no more with vanitie, I would to God thou and I knew where a commoditie of good names were to bee bought: an olde Lorde of the counsell rated me the other day in the streete about you sir, but I markt him not, and yet hee talkt very wisely, but I regarded him not, and yet he talkt wisely and in the street to.

Prince. Thou didst wel, for wisdom cries out in the streets, and no man regards it.

Fals. O, thou hast damnable iteration, and art indeed able to corrupt a saint: thou hast done much harme vnto mee, *Hal*, God forgie thee for it: before I knewe thee *Hal*, I knewe nothing, and now am I, if a man should speake truely, little better then one of the wicked: I must giue ouer this life, and I will giue it ouer: by the Lord and I doe not, I am a villaine, Ile bee damned for neuer a kings forme in Christendom.

Prin. Where shall we take a purse to morrow Iacke?

Fals. Zounds where thou wilt lad, Ile make one, an I do not call me villaine and bassell me.

Prin. I see a good amendment of life in thee, from praying, to purse-taking.

Fal. Why, *Hal*, 'tis my vocation *Hal*, 'tis no sinne for a man to labour in his vocation.

Enter Poines.

Poynes, nowe shall we knowe if Gads hull haue set a match. O, if men were to be saued by merit, what hole in hel were not enough for him: this is the most omnipotent villaine that euer cryed stand, to a true man.

Prince. Good morrow, *Ned*.

Poines. Good morrow sweete *Hal*. What saies Monsieur remorie? what sayes sir Iohn Sacke, and Sugar Iacke? howe agrees the deuill and thee about thy foule that thou fouldest him on good Friday last, for a cup of Medera and a cold capons legge?

Prince. Sir Iohn stands to his word, the deuill shall haue his bargaine, for he was neuer yet a breaker of prouerbes: he will giue the diuell his due.

Poines

of Henry the fourth.

Poynes. Then art thou damnd for keeping thy word with the diuell.

Prince. Else he had bin damnd for coofening the diuell.

Poy. But my lads, my lads, to morrow morning, by foure a clocke early at Gads hill, there are pilgrims going to Canturburie with rich offerings, and traders riding to London with fat purses. I haue vizards for you all; you haue horses for your selues, Gadshill lies to night in Rochester, I haue bespoke supper to morrow night in Eastcheape: we may doe it as secure as sleepe: if you will goe, I will stuffe your purses full of crownes: if you will not, tarie at home and be hangd.

Fals. Heare ye Yedward, if I tarrie at home and goe not, I'll hang you for going.

Po. You will chops.

Fals. Hal, wilt thou make one?

Prin. Who, I rob? I a thiefe? not I by my faith.

Fals. Ther's neither honellie, manhood, nor good fellowship in thee, nor thou camest not of the bloud royall, if thou darrest not stand for ten shillings.

Prince. Well then, once in my dayes I'll be a madcap,

Fals. Why that's well said.

Prin. Well, come what will, I'll tarrie at home.

Fals. By the lord, I'll be a traitor then, when thou art king,

Prin. I care not.

Po. Sir Iohn, I preethe leaue the prince and me alone, I will lay him downe such reasons for this aduenture, that he shal go.

Fals. Wel, God giue thee the spirit of perswasion, and him the eares of profiting, that what thou speakest may moue, and what he heares, may be beleeued, that the true prince may (for recreation sake) proue a false thiefe, for the poore abuses of the time want countenance: farewell, you shal find me in Eastcheap

Prin. Farewel the latter spring, farewell Allhallowne summer,

Poin. Now my good sweet hony Lord, ride with vs to morrow, I haue a lealt to execute, that I cannot mannage alone. Falstaffe, Haruey, Rofsill, and Gadshil, shal rob those men that we haue already way-laid, your selfe and I will not bee there: and when they haue the boctie, if you and I doe not rob them, cut this head off from my shoulders.

The Historie

Prin. How shall we part with them in setting forth?

Pe. Why, we will let forth before or after them, and appoint them a place of meeting, wherein it is at our pleasure to faile; and then will they aduenture vpon the exploit themselves, which they shall haue no sooner atchieued, but wee'le set vpon them.

Prin. Yea: but t'is like that they will know vs by our horses, by our habits, and by euery other appointment to be our selues.

Pe. Tut, our horses they shal not see, i'le tie the in the wood, our vizards wee will change after wee leaue them: and sirra, I haue cases of Buckram for the nonce, to immaske our noted outward garments.

Prin. Yea, but I doubt they will be too hard for vs.

Pe. Well, for two of them, I know them to bee as true bred cowards as euer turnd backe: and for the third, if he fight longer then he sees reason, Ile forweare armes. The vertue of this ieast will be the incomprehensible lies, that this same fat rogue will tell vs when wee meet at supper, how thirtie at least hee fought with, what wards, what blowes, what extremities he incurred, and in the reproofe of this lyes the ieast.

Prin. Well, i'le goe with thee, prouide vs all things necessarie, and meete me to morrow night in Eastcheape, there i'le sup: farewell.

Pe. Farewell my Lord.

Exit Paines.

Prin. I know you all, and will a while vphold
The vnyokt humour of your idlenesse,
Yet herein will I imitate the Sunne,
Who doth permit the base contagious clouds
To smother vp his beautie from the world,
That when he please againe to be himselfe,
Being wanted he may be more wondred at
By breaking through the foule and vgly mists
Of vapours that did seeme to strangle him.
If all the yeere were playing holy-dayes,
To sport would be as tedious as to worke;
But when they seldome come, they wisht for come,
And nothing pleaseth but rare accidents:
So when this loose behaviour I throw off,
And pay the debt I neuer promised,

By

of Henry the fourth.

By how much better then my word I am,
By so much shall I falsifie mens hopes,
And like bright mettall on a sullen ground,
My reformation glittering or'e my fault,
Shal shew more goodly, and attract more eies
Then that which hath no foile to set it off.
Ile so offend, to make offence a skill,
Redeeming time when men thinke least I will. *Exit.*

*Enter the King, Northumberland, Worcester, Hotspur,
Sir Walter Blunt, with others.*

King. My blood hath bin too cold and temperate,
Vnapt to stir at these indignities,
And you haue found me, for accordingly
You tread vpon my patience, but be sure
I will from henceforth rather be my selfe
Mightie, and to be feard, then my condition,
Which hath bin smooth as oyle, soft as yong downe,
And therefore lost that title of respect,
Which the proud soule ne're payes but to the proud.

Wor. Our house (my soueraigne liege) little deserues
The scourge of greatnesse to be vsed on it,
And that same greatnesse to, which our owne hands
Haue holpe to make so portly. *North.* My Lord.

King. Worcester, get thee gone, for I doe see
Danger, and disobedience in thine eie:
O sir, your presence is too bold and peremptorie,
And Maiestie might neuer yet endure
The moodie frontier of a seruant brow,
You haue good leaue to leaue vs: when we need
Your vse & counsell, we shall send for you. *Exit Wor.*
You were about to speake.

North. Yea, my good Lord,
Those prisoners in your highnes name demanded,
Which Harry Percy here at Holmedon tooke,
Were as he saies, not with such strength denied
As is deliuered to your maiestie.
Either enue therefore, or misprision,
Is guiltie of this fault, and not my sonne.

The Historie

Hossp. My liege, I did denie no prisoners;
But I remember when the fight was done,
When I was drie with rage, and extreme toyle,
Breathles and faint, leaning vpon my sword,
Came there a certaine Lord, neat and trimly drest,
Fresh as a bridegroom, and his chin new reapt,
Shewd like a stubble land at haruest home,
He was perfum'd like a Milliner,
And twixt his finger and his thumbe he held
A pouncet boxe, which euer and anon
He gaue his nose, and took't away againe,
Who therewith angry, when it next came there
Tooke it in suffe, and still he smild and talkt:
And as the souldiours bore dead bodies by,
He cald them vntaught knaues, vnmanerly,
To bring a sloenly vnhandsome coarse
Betwixt the wind and his nobilitie:
With many holy-day and ladie tearmes
He questioned me, amongst the rest demanded
My prisoners in your Maicities behalfe.
I then, all smarting with my wounds being cold,
To be so pestred with a Poppingay,
Out of my griefe and my impatience
Answered neglectingly, I know not what,
He should, or he should not, for he made me mad:
To see him shine so briske, and sinell so sweete,
And talke so like a waiting gentlewoman,
Of guns, and drums, and wounds, God saue the marke:
And telling me, the foueraigne sthing on earth,
Was Parmacitie, for an inward bruise,
And that it was great pitie, so it was,
This villanous saltpeeter, should be digd
Out of the bowels of the harmeles earth,
Which many a good tall fellow had destroyed
So cowardly, and but for these vile guns,
He would himselfe haue bene a souldiour.
This bald vniointed chat of his (my Lord)
I answered indirectly (as I said)

And

of Henry the fourth.

And I beseech you, let not this report
Come currant for an accusation
Betwixt my loue and your high maiestie.

Blunt. The circumstance considered, good my lord,
What e're *Harry Percy* then had said
To such a person, and in such a place,
At such a time, with all the rest retold,
May reasonably die, and neuer rise
To doe him wrong, or any way impeach
What then he said, so he vnsway it now.

King. Why yet he doth denie his prisoners,
But with prouiso and exception,
That we at our owne charge shall ransom straight
His brother in law, the foolish Mortimer,
Who on my soule, hath wilfully betraid
The liues of those, that he did lead to fight
Against that great Magician, damned Glendower,
Whose daughter as we heare, the Earle of March
Hath lately married; shall our coffers then
Be emptied to redeeme a traitor home?
Shall we buy treason? and indent with feares
When they haue lost and forfeited themselves?
No, on the barren mountaine let him starue:
For I shall neuer hold that man my friend,
Whose tongue shall aske me for one penny cost
To ransom home reuolted Mortimer.

Hot. Reuolted Mortimer?
He neuer did fall off, my soueraigne liege,
But by the chance of war: to proue that true
Needs no more but one tongue: for all those wounds,
Those mouthed wounds which valiantly he tooke,
When on the gentle *Seuerns* siedgie banke,
In single opposition hand to hand,
He did confound the best part of an houre,
In changing hardiment with great Glendower,
Three times they breathd, & three times did they drinke
Vpon agreement of swift *Seuerns* floud,
Who then affrighted with their blondie looks,

The Historie

Ran fearefully among the trembling reedes,
And hid his crispe-head in the hollow banke,
Blood-stained with these valiant combatants,
Neuer did bare and rotten policy
Colour her working with such deadly wounds,
Nor neuer could the noble Mortimer
Receiue so many, and all willingly:
Then let not him be slandered with repolt.

King. Thou dost bely him Percy, thou dost bely him,
He neuer did encounter with Glendower:
I tell thee he durst as well haue met the deuill alone,
As Owen Glendower for an enemye.

Art thou not asham'd; but sirra, henceforth
Let me not heare you speake of Mortimer:
Send me your prisoners with the speediest meanes,
Or you shall heare in such a kinde from me
As will displease you, My Lord Northumberland,
We licence your departure with your sonne,
Send vs your prisoners, or you will heare of it.

Exit King.

Hot. And if the deuill come and rore for them,
I wil not send them: I will after straight
And tell him so, for I will ease my heart,
Albeit I make a hazard of my head.

North. What? drunke with choler? stay and pause a while,
Here comes your vncle.

Enter Wor.

Hot. Speake of Mortimer?
Zoundes I will speake of him: and let my soule
Want mercie, if I doe not ioyne with him:
Yea, on his part he emptic all these vaines,
And shed my deare blood, drop by drop in the dust,
But I will lift the downe-trod Mortimer
As high in the aire as this vnthankfull king,
As this ingrate and cankered Bullingbrooke.

North. Brother, the king hath made your nephew mad.

Wor. Who strooke this heate vp after I was gone?

Hot. He will forsooth haue all my prisoners,
And when I vrg'd the ransome once agayne
Of my wifes brother, then his cheekes lookt pale,

And

of Henrie the fourth.

And on my face he turn'd an eie of death,
Trembling euen at the name of Mortimer.

Wor. I cannot blame him, was not he proclaim'd
By Richard that dead is, the next of blood?

North. He was, I heard the proclamation:
And then it was, when the unhappie king,
(Whose wrongs in vs God pardon) did set forth
Vpon his Irish expedition;
From whence he intercepted, did returne
To be depos'd, and shortly murdered.

Wor. And for whose death, we in the worlds wide mouth
Liue scandaliz'd and foully spoken of.

Hot. But loſt I pray you, did king Richard then
Proclaime my brother Mortimer
Heire to the crowne?

North. He did, my ſelfe did heare it.

Hot. Nay, then I cannot blame his choſen king,
That wiſht him on the barren mountaines ſtarue.
But ſhall it be that you that ſet the crowne
Vpon the head of this forgetful man,
And for his ſake weare the detested blot
Of murderous ſubornation? ſhall it be
That you a world of curſes vndergo,
Being the agents, or baſe ſecond meanes,
The cordes, the ladder, or the hangman rather?
O pardon me, that I deſcend ſo low,
To ſhew the line and the predicament,
Wherein you range vnder this ſubtil king.
Shall it for ſhame be ſpoken in theſe dayes,
Or fill vp Chronicles in time to come,
That men of your nobility and power
Did gage them both in an vniuit behalfe,
(As both of you God pardon it, haue done)
To put downe Richard that ſweet louely Roſe,
And plant this thorne, this canker Bullingbrooke?
And ſhall it in more ſhame be further ſpoken,
That you are fool'd, diſcarded, and ſhook off
By him, for whom theſe ſhames ye vnderwent?

The Historie

No, yet time serues, wherein you may redeeme
Your banisht honors, and restore your selues,
Into the good thoughts of the world againe:
Reuenge the iëring and disdain'd contempt
Of this proud king, who studies day and night
To answere all the debt he owes to you,
Euen with the bloody payment of your deaths:
Therefore I say,

Wor. Peace coosen, say no more.

And now I will vnclasp a secret booke,
And to your quicke conceiuing discontents
Ile reade you matter deepe and dangerous,
Asfull of perill and aduenterous spirit,
As to o'rewalke a Current roling lowd,
On the vnstedfast footing of a speare.

Hot. If he fall in, good-night, or sincke, or swim,
Send danger from the East vnto the West,
So honor crosse it, from the North to South,
And let them grapple: O the bloud more stirs
To rouse a lyon than to start a hare.

North. Imagination of some great exploit
Driues him beyond the bounds of patience.
By heauen me thinkes it were an easie leape,
To plucke bright honor from the palefac'd Moone,
Or diue into the bottome of the deepe,
Where fadome line could neuer touch the ground,
And plucke vp drowned honour by the locks,
So he that doth redeeme her thence might weare
Without corriuall all her dignities:
But out vpon this halfe fac't fellowship.

Wor. He apprehends a world of figures here,
But not the forme of what he should attend,
Good coosen giue me audience for a while.

Hot. I crie you mercy.

Wor. Those same noble Scots that are your prisoners

Hot. Ile keepe them all;

By God he shall not haue a Scot of them,
No, if a Scot would saue his soule he shall not.

Ile

of Henry the fourth.

He keepe them by this hand,

Wor. You start away,

And lend no eare vnto my purposes:

Those prisoners you shall keepe.

Hot. Nay, I will: that's flat:

He said he would not ransom Mortimer,

Forbad my tongue to speake of Mortimer,

But I will finde him when he lies asleepe,

And in his eare Ile hollow Mortimer:

Nay, Ile haue a starling shalbe taught to speake

Nothing but Mortimer, and giue it him

To keepe his anger still in motion.

Wor. Heare you coosen, a word.

Hot. All studies here I solemnly desie,

Saue how to gall and pinch this Bullingbrooke,

And that same sword and buckler prince of Wales,

But that I thinke his father loues him not,

And would be glad he met with some mischance:

I would haue him poisoned with a pot of Ale.

Wor. Farewell kinsman, Ile talke to you

When you are better tempered to attend.

Nor. Why what a waspe-tongue and impatient foole

Art thou? to breake into this womans moode,

Tying thine eare to no tongue but thine owne?

Hot. Why looke you, I am whipt and scour'd with rods,

Netled, and stung with pismires, when I heare

Of this vile pollution Bullingbrooke,

In Richards time, what do you call the place?

A plague vpon it, it is in Gloucestershire;

T'was where the mad-cap duke his vncke kept

His vncke Yorke, where I first bowed my knee

Vnto this king of smiles, this Bullingbrooke;

Zblood, when you and he came backe from Ravenspurgh.

Nor. At Barkly castie.

Hot. You say true.

Why what a Candy deale of curtesie,

This fawning greyhound then did proffer me,

Looke when his infant fortune came to age;

And gentle Harry Percy, and kind coolen;

The Historie

O, the deuill take such coofeners, God forgie mee,
Good Vncle tell your tale, I haue done,

Wor. Nay, if you haue not, to it againe,
We will stay your leifure.

Hot. I haue done I faith.

Wor. Then once more to your Scottish prisoners,
Deliuier them vp, without their ransome straight,
And make the Douglas sonne your onely meane
For Powers in Scotland, which for diuers reasons
Which I shall send you written, be assur'd
Will easily be granted you, my Lord.
Your sonne in Scotland being thus employed,
Shall secretly into the bosome creepe
Of that same noble prelate welbelou'd,
The Archbishop.

Hot spwr. Of Yorke, is it not?

Wor. True, who beares hard
His brothers death at Bristow the Lord Scroope:
I speake not this in estimation,
As what I thinke might be, but what I know
Is ruminated, plotted, and set downe,
And onely stayes but to behold the face
Of that occasion that shall bring it on,

Hot sp. I smell it. Vpon my life it will doe well.

Nor. Before the game is afoot, thou still letst slip.

Hot. Why, it cannot chuse but be a noble plot,
And then the power of Scotland, and of Yorke,
To ioyne with Mortimer, ha.

Wor. And so they shall.

Hot. In faith it is exceedingly well aimed.

Wor. And t'is no little reason bids vs speed,
To saue our heads, by raising of a head:
For beare our selues as euen as we can,
The King will alwayes thinke him in our debt,
And thinke we thinke our selues vnsatisfied,
Till he hath found a time to pay vs home.
And see already, how he doth begin
To make vs strangers to his lookes of loue.

Hot.

of Henry the fourth.

Hot. He does, he does, weele be reueng'd on him.

Wor. Coosen, farewell. No further goe in this,

Then I by letters shall direct your course

When time is ripe, which will be suddenly:

Ile steale to Glendower, and loe, Mortimer,

Where you and Douglas, and our powers at once,

As I will fashion it, shall happily meet,

To beare our fortunes in our owne strong armes,

Which now we hold at much vncertaintie.

Nor. Farewel good brother, we shal chriue, I trust.

Hot. Vncle adieu: O let the houres be short,

Till fields, and blowes, and grones applaud our sport.

Exeunt.

Enter a Carrier with a lanterne in his hand.

1 Car. Heigh ho. An it bee not foure by the day, ile bee hanged, Charles waine is ouer the new Chimney, and yet our horse not packt. What Ostler.

Ost. Anon, anon.

1 Car. I prethee Tom, beat Cuts saddle, put a few flocks in the point, poore iade is wrung in the withers, out of all cesse.

Enter another Carrier.

2 Car. Bedle and beanes are as danke here as a dog, and that is the new way to giue poore iades the bots: this houle is turned vpside downe since Robin Ostler died.

1 Car. Poore fellow neuer ioied since the price of Oates rose, it was the death of him.

2 Car. I thinke this be the most villainous house in al London road for fleas, I am stung like a Tench.

1 Car. Like a Tench? by the Masse there is ne're a king christen could be better but, then I haue bin since the first cocke.

2 Car. Why, they will allow vs ne're a Iordane, and then we leake in your chimney, and your chamber-lie breeds fleas like aloach.

1 Car. What, Ostler, come away, and be hang'd, come away.

2 Car. I haue a gammon of Bacon, and two razes of Ginger, to be deliuered as farre as Charing crosse.

1 Car. Gods body, the Turkies in my Panier are quiet starued: what Ostler! a plague on thee, hast thou neuer an eie in thy head? can't not heare, and t'were not as good deede as drink to

The Historie

breake the pate on thee, I am a very villaine, come & be hangd,
hast no faith in thee?

Enter Gadshill.

Gadshill. Good morrow Carriers, what's a clocke?

Car. I thinke it be two a clocke.

Gad. I prethe lend me thy lanterne, to see my gelding in the stable.

1 Car. Nay by God soft, I know a tricke worth two of that I faith.

Gad. I pray thee lend me thine,

2 Car. I, when, canst tell? lend me thy lanterne (quoth he) marry ile see thee hangd first.

Gad. Sirra Carrier, what time doe you meane to come to London?

2 Car. Time enough to goe to bed with a candle, I warrant thee. Come neighbour Mugs, wee'le call vp the Gentlemen, they will along with company, for they haue great charge.

Enter Chamberlaine.

Exeunt.

Gad. What ho: Chamberlaine.

Cham. At hand quoth picke-purse.

Gad. That's euē as faire, as at hand quoth the Chamberlaine: for thou variest no more from picking of purses, then giuing direction, doth from labouring: thou layest the plot how.

Cham. Good morrow master Gadshill, it holds currant that I told you yester night, ther's a Franckelin in the wild of Kent, hath brought three hundred marks with him in gold, I heard him tell it to one of his company last night at supper, a kind of Auditor, one that hath abundance of charge too, God knowes what, they are vp already, and call for egges and butter, they will away presently.

Gad. Sirra, if they meet not with Saint Nicholas clarks, ile giue thee this necke.

Cham. No, ile none of it, I pray thee keepe that for the hangman, for I know thou worshippest Saint Nicholas, as truely as a man of falshood may.

Ga. What talkest thou to me of the hangman? if I hang, ile make a fat paire of gallowes: for if I hang, old sir Iohn hangs with me, & thou knowest he is no starueling: tut, there are other

Troians

of Henry the fourth.

Troians that thou dream'st not of, the which for sport sake are content to do the profession, some grace, that would (if matters should be lookt into) for their owne credit sake make all whole. I am ioyned with no footland rakers, no long-staffe sixpennie strikers, none of these mad mustachio purplehewd maltworms, but with nobilitie, and tranquillitie, Burgomasters and great Oneyers, such as can hold in such as wil strike sooner then speak, and speak sooner then drinke, and drinke sooner then pray, and yet (zoundes) I lie, for they pray continually to their Saint the Common-wealth, or rather not pray to her, but pray on her, for they ride vp and downe on her, and make her their bootes.

Cham. What, the Common-wealth their bootes? will she hold out water in foule way?

Gad. She will, she will, Iustice hath liquord her: we steale as in a Castle cocksure: we haue the receite of Fernescede, wee walke inuisible.

Cham. Nay, by my faith, I thinke you are more beholding to the night then to Fernescede, for your walking inuisible.

Gad. Giue me thy hand, thou shalt haue a share in our purchase, as I am a true man.

Cham. Nay, rather let me haue it, as you are a false theefe.

Gad. Go to, *homo* is a common name to al men: bid the Ostler bring my gelding out of the stable, farewell, ye muddy knaue.

Enter Prince, Poynes, and Peto, &c.

Poin. Come shelter, shelter, I haue remoot'd Falstalfs horse, and he frets like a gum'd Velvet.

Prince. Stand close. *Enter Falstalf.*

Fals. Poynes, Poynes, and be hang'd Poynes.

Prince. Peace ye fat-kidneyd rascal, what a brawling dost thou keepe?

Fals. What Poynes, Hal?

Prin. He is walkt vp to the top of the hill, Ile go seeke him.

Fals. I am accur'd to rob in that theeues companie, the rascal hath remoued my horse, and tyed him I know not where, if I trauell but foure foote by the squire further afoote, I shal breake my winde. Well, I doubt not but to die a faire death for all this, if I scape hanging for killing that rogue. I haue forsworne his company hourelly any time this xxii. yeare, and yet I am be-

The Historie

witche with the rogues companie. If the rascall haue not gi-
uen me medicines to make me loue him, ile be hang'd. It could
not be else, I haue drunke medicines, Poynes, Hal, a plague
vpon you both. Bardoll, Peto, ile starue e're ile rob afoote fur-
ther, and t'were not as good a deede as drinke to turne true-
man, and to leaue these rogues; I am the veriest varlet that euer
chewed with a tooth: eight yeardes of vneuen ground is three-
score and ten miles afoote with mee: and the stonie hearted
villaines knowe it well inough, a plague vpon it when theeues
can not be true one to another.

They whistle.

Whew, a plague vpon you all, giue mee my horse, you rogues,
giue me my horse, and be hang'd.

Prin. Peace ye fat guts, lie downe, lay thine eare close to the
ground, and list if thou can heare the tread of travellers.

Fals. Haue you any leauers to lift me vp againe being downe?
z blood ile not beare mine owne flesh so farre afoote againe, for
all the coine in thy fathers Exchequer: What a plague meane
ye, to colt me thus?

Prin. Thou lyest, thou art not colted, thou art vncolted.

Fals. I pray the good prince, Hal, helpe me to my horses, good
kings sonne.

Prin. Out you rogue, shall I be your Officer?

Fals. Hang thy selfe in thine owne heire apparant garters: if
I be raine, ile peach for this: and I haue not Ballads made on you
all, and sung to filthy tunes, let a cuppe of sacke be my poyson:
when iest is so forward, and afoote too, I hate it.

Enter Gadshill.

Gad. Stand. *Fals.* So I do against my will.

Poi. O t'is our setter, I know his voyce, Bardoll, what newes?

Bar. Case ye, case ye; on with your vizards, there's money
of the Kings coming downe the hill, t'is going to the Kings
Exchequer.

Fals. You lie, ye rogue, t'is going to the kings Tauerne.

Gad. There's inough to make vs all:

Fals. To be hang'd.

Prin. Sirs, you foure shal front them in the narrow lane: Ned
Poynes, and I will walke lower: if they scape from your encoun-
ter,

of Henry the fourth.

ter, then they light on vs.

Peto. How many be they of them?

Gad. Some eight, or ten.

Fals. Zoundes, will they not rob vs?

Prince. What, a coward, sir Iohn paunch?

Fals. In deed I am not Iohn of Gaunt, your grandfather; but yet no coward, Hal.

Prince. Well, we leaue that to the prooffe.

Po. Sirra, Iacke, thy horse standes behinde the hedge, when thou needst him, there thou shalt find him: farewell, & stand fast.

Fals. Now can not I strike him if I should be hang'd.

Prin. Ned, where are our disguises?

Poi. Here, hard by, stand close.

Fals. Now my masters, happy man be his dole, say I, euery man to his businesse. *Enter the traualers.*

Trauai. Come neighbour, the boy shall lead our horses down the hill, weele walke a foote awhile, and ease our legs.

Theeues. Stand.

Trauel. Ie'us blesse vs.

Fals. Strike, downe with them, cut the villaines throates: a horeson Catterpillers, Bacon-fed knaues, they hate vs youth, downe with them, fleece them.

Tra. O, we are vndone, both we and ours, for euer.

Fal. Hang ye gorbellied knaues, are ye vndone? no ye fatte chuffes, I would your store were here: on Bacons on, what yee knaues? yong men must liue, you are graunde iurers, are yee? weele iure ye faith.

Here they rob them, and bind them. Exit.

Enter the Prince and Paines.

Prin. The theeues haue bound the true men: nowe couldst thou and I rob the theeues, and go merily to London, it would be argument for a weeke, laughter for a moneth, and a good iest for euer.

Paines. Stand close, I heare them comming.

Enter the theeues againe.

Fals. Come, my masters, let vs share, and then to horse before day: and the Prince and Paines bee not two arrant cowardes, there's no equitie stirring, ther's no more valour in that Paines, then in a wilde ducke.

Prin.

The Historie

As they are sharing, the Prince and Paines
 Prin. Your money. *set upon them, they all runne away, and*
 Poin. Villaines. *Falstaffe after a blow or two runs away*
too, leaning the bootie behinde them.

Prin. Got with much ease. Now merrily to horse: the theeues
 are scattered, and posselt with feare so strongly, that they dare
 not meete each other, each takes his fellow for an officer, away
 good Ned, Falstaffe liueates to death, and lards the leane earth
 as he walkes along, wer't not for laughing I should pittie him.

Paines. How the rogne roar'd. Exeunt.

Enter Hotspur solus, reading a letter.

But for mine owne part, my Lord, I could be well contented to bee
there, in respect of the loue I beare your house.

He could be contented, why is he not then? in the respect of
 the loue he beares our house: he shewes in this, he loues his own
 barne better then he loues our house. Let me see some more.

The purpose you undertake is dangerous,

Why that's certaine, 't is dangerous to take a cold, to sleepe,
 to drinke, but I tell you (my Lord foole) out of this nettle dan-
 ger, we plucke this flower safetie.

The purpose you undertake is dangerous, the friends you haue na-
med vncertaine, the time it selfe vsorted, and your whole plot too
light, for the counterpoysse of so great an opposition.

Say you so, say you so, I say vnto you againe, you are a shal-
 low cowardly hinde, and you lye: what a lacke-braine is this? by
 the Lord our plot is a good plot, as euer was laid, our friends true
 and constant: a good plot, good friends, & ful of expectation: an
 excellent plot, very good friends; what a frottie spirited rogue is
 this? why, my Lord of Yorke commends the plot, and the gene-
 rall courtie of the Action. Zoundes and I were now by this rascall,
 I could braine him with his Ladies fanne. Is there not my
 father, my vncl, and my selfe, Lord Edmond Mortimer, my
 Lord of Yorke, and Owen Glendower? is there not besides the
 Dowglas? haue I not al their letters to meete me in armes by the
 ninth of the next month, and are they not some of them set for-
 ward already? what a pagan rascall is this, and infidel? Ha, you
 shall see now in very sinceritie of feare and cold heart, will he to
 the King, and lay open all our proceedings. O, I could deuide

my

of *Henry the fourth.*

my selfe, & go to buffets, for mouing such a dish of skim milke with so honorable an action. Hang him, let him tell the king, we are prepared: I will set forward to night. *Enter his Lady.*

How now Kate, I must leaue you within these two houres?

Lady. O my good Lord, why are you thus alone?
For what offence haue I this fortnight bin
A banisht woman from my Harries bed?
Tell me, sweet Lord, what is't that takes from thee
Thy stomake, pleasure, and thy golden sleepe?
Why dost thou bend thine eyes vpon the earth?
And start so often when thou sitt alone?
Why hast thou lost the fresh bloud in thy cheekes?
And giuen my treasures and my rights of thee
To thicke eyde musing, and curst melancholy?
In thy faint slumbers, I by thee haue watcht,
And heard thee murmur tales of yron wars,
Speake tearmes of mannage to thy bounding steed,
Cry courage to the field. And thou hast talkt
Of sallies, and retyres of trenches, tents,
Of pallizadoes, frontiers, parapets,
Of basilisks, of canon, culuerin,
Of prisoners ransome, and of fouldiours slaine,
And all the currents of a heddy fight,
Thy spirit within thee hath bin so at war,
And thus hath so bestird thee in thy sleepe,
That beds of sweat haue stood vpon thy brow
Like bubbles in a late disturbed streame,
And in thy face strange motions haue appeared,
Such as we see when men restraime their breath,
On some great suddaine haste. O, what portents are these?
Some heauy busines hath my Lord in hand,
And I must know it, else he loues me not.

Hot. What ho, is Gilliams with the packet gone?

Ser. He is, my Lord, an houre ago.

Hot. Hath Butler brought those horses from the Sheriffe?

Ser. One horse, my Lord, he brought euen now.

Hot. What horse, Roane? a cropeare, is it not?

Ser. It is my Lord.

The Historic

Hot. That Roane shal be my throne. Well, I will backe him straight: O Esperance, bid Butler lead him forth into the parke.

La. But heare you my Lord.

Hot. What saist thou my Lady?

La. What is it carries you away?

Hot. Why, my horse (my loue) my horse.

La. Out you madhedded ape, a weazel hath not such a deale of spleene, as you are tost with. In faith, ile know your busines Harry, that I wil, I feare, my brother Mortimer doth stir about his title, & hath sent for you to line his enterprise, but if you goe:

Hot. So far afoot, I shall be weary, loue,

La. Come, come you Paraquito, answer mee directly, vnto this question that I shall aske: in faith, ile breake thy little finger, Harry, and if thou wilt not tell me all things true.

Hot. Away, away you trisler, loue, I loue thee not, I care not for thee Kate, this is no world To play with mammetts, and to tilt with lips, We must haue bloody noses, and crackt crownes, And passe them currant too: gods me, my horse: What saist thou Kate? what woldst thou haue with me?

La. Do you not loue me? do you not indeed? Well, doe not then, for since you loue me not, I will not loue my selfe. Doe you not loue me? Nay, tell me, if you speake in ieast, or no?

Hot. Come, wilt thou see me ride? And when I am a horsebacke, I will sweare, I loue thee infinitely. But harke you Kate, I must not haue you henceforth, question me, Whither I goe, nor reason, whereabout: Whither I must, I must, and to conclude, This euening must I leaue you gentle Kate: I know you wise, but yet no farther wise, Then Harry Percies wife: constant you are, But yet a woman, and for secrecy, No Lady closer, for I well belecue, Thou wilt not vtter, what thou dost not know: And so far will I trust thee, gentle Kate.

La. How, so far?

Hot.

of Henry the fourth.

Hot. Not an inch further, but harke you Kate,
Whither I goe, thither shall you goe too:
To day will I set forth, to morrow you:
Will this content you, Kate?

La. It must of force.

Exeunt.

Enter Prince and Poines.

Prin. Ned, prethee come out of that fat roome, and lend me
thy hand to laugh a little.

Poi. Where hast bin, Hal?

Prin. With three or foure logger-heads, amongst three or
fourescore hogsheds. I haue sounded the very base string of
humilitie. Sirra, I am sworne brother to a leash of drawers, and
can call them all by their christen names; as Tom, Dicke, and
Francis: they take it already vpon their saluation, that though I
be but Prince of Wales, yet I am the king of Curtesie, & tel me
flatly, I am no proud Iacke, like Falstaffe, but a Corinthian, a
lad of mettall, a good boy, (by the Lord, so they call me) and
when I am King of England, I shall command all the good lads
in Eastcheape. They call drinking deepe, dying scarlet, and
when you breathe in your watering, they cry hem, and bid you
play it off. To conclude, I am so good a proficient in one quar-
ter of an houre, that I can drinke with any Tinker, in his own
language, during my life. I tell thee, Ned, thou hast lost much
honour, that thou wert not with me, in this action; but sweet
Ned, to sweeten which name of Ned, I giue thee this peniworth
of sugar, clapt euen now into my hand, by an vndersinker,
one that neuer spake other English in his life, then eight shil-
lings and sixe pence, and you are welcome, with this shrill ad-
ditio, anon, anon sir; skore a pint of bastard in the halfe moone,
or so. But Ned, to drine away the time till Falstaffe come: I
prethee, doe thou stand in some by-roome, while I question my
puny drawer, to what end he gaue me the sugar, and doe thou
neuer leaue calling Frances, that his tale to me may be nothing
but anon: step aside, and ile shew thee a present.

Poi. Frances.

Prin. Thou art perfect.

Prin. Frances.

Enter Drawer.

Fran. Anon, anon sir. Looke downe into the Pomgarnet,
Ralph.

The Historie

Prin. Come hither, Frances. *Fran.* My Lord.

Prin. How long hast thou to serue, Frances?

Fran. Forfooth, fife yeeres, and as much as to.

Po. Frances.

Fran. Anon, anon fir.

Prin. Fife yeere, berlady a long lease for the clinking of pewter; but Frances, darest thou be so valiant, as to play the coward with thy Indenture, and shew it a faire paire of heeles, and run from it?

Fran. O Lord fir, ile be sworne vpon all the bookes in England, I could find in my heart.

Poin. Frances.

Fran. Anon fir.

Prin. How old art thou, Frances?

Fran. Let me see, about Michaelmas next I shall be.

Poin. Frances.

Fran. Anon fir, pray you stay a little my Lord.

Prin. Nay but harke you Frances, for the sugar thou gauest me, t'was a peniworth, was't not?

Fran. O Lord, I would it had bin two.

Prin. I will giue thee for it, a thousand pound, aske me when thou wilt, and thou shalt haue it.

Poin. Frances.

Fran. Anon, anon.

Prin. Anon Frances, no Frances, but to morrow Frances: or Frances a Thursday; or indeed Frances when thou wilt. But Frances.

Fran. My Lord.

Prin. Wilt thou rob this leatherne Ierkin, cristall button, not-pated, agat ring, puke stocking, Caddice garter, smooth tongue, spanish pouch?

Fran. O Lord fir, who doe you meane?

Prin. Why, then your browne baltard is your onely drinke? for looke you Frances, your white canuas doublet will sulley, In Barbary fir, it cannot come to so much.

Fran. What fir?

Poin. Frances.

Prin. Away you rogue, dost thou not heare them call.

Here they both call him, the Drawer stands amazed, not knowing which way to goe.

Enter Vintner.

Vint. What, standst thou stil, and hearst such a calling? looke

of Henry the fourth.

to the ghefts within. My Lord, old sir Iohn with halfe a douzen more are at the doore, shall I let them in?

Prin. Let them alone awhile, and then open the doore: *Poines.*

Poi. Anon, anon sir.

Enter Poines.

Prince. Sirra, Falstaffe and the rest of the theeves are at the doore, shall we be merry?

Poi. As merry as Crickets, my lad, but harke ye, what cunning match haue you made with this iest of the Drawer? come, what's the issue?

Prin. I am now of all humours, that haue shewed themselves humours since the old dayes of goodman Adam, to the pupill age of this present twelue a clocke at midnight. What's a clocke, Frances?

Fran. Anon, anon sir.

Prin. That euer this fellowe should haue fewer words then a Parrat, & yet the sonne of a woman. His industrie is vp staires and downe staires, his eloquence the parcel of a reckoning. I am not yet of Percies minde, the Hotspur of the North, he that kills me some fixe or seuen douzen of Scots at a breakefast, washes his handes, and sayes to his wife, Fie vpon this quiet life, I want worke. O my sweet Harry saies she! how many hast thou kild to day? Giue my Roane horse a drench (sayes hee) and answers some fourteene, an hour after: a trifle, a trifle. I prethee call in Falstaffe, ile play Percy, and that damnde brawne shall play Dame Mortimer his wife. *Rino* saies the drunkard: call in Ribs, call in Tallow.

Enter Falstaffe.

Poi. Welcome Iacke, where hast thou bene?

Fals. A plague of al cowards I say, and a vengeance too, marry and Amen: giue me a cup of sacke boy. E're I lead this life long, ile sow neather stocks, and mend them, & foote them too. A plague of all cowards. Giue me a cup of sacke, rogue, is there no vertue extant?
he drinketh.

Prin. Didst thou neuer see Titan kisse a dish of butter, pitiful harted Titan that melted at the sweet tale of the sonnes? if thou didst, then behold that compound.

The Historie

Fals. You rogue, heere's lime in this sacke too, there is nothing but rogerie to be found in villanous man, yet a coward is worle then a cup of sacke with lime in it. A villanous coward. Go thy wayes old lacke, die when thou wilt, if manhood, good manhood be not forgot vpon the face of the earth, then am I a shotten herring: there liues not three good men vnhang'd in England, and one of them is fat, and growes old, God help the while, a bad world I say, I would I were a weauer, I could sing psalmes, or any thing. A plague of all cowards, I say still.

Prin. How now, Wolfe, what mutter you?

Fals. A kings sonne? if I doe not beat thee out of thy kingdom with a dagger of lath, and drue all thy subiects afore thee like a flock of wilde geese, ile neuer weare haire on my face more, you Prince of Wales.

Prin. Why you horeson round-man, what's the matter?

Fals. Are you not a coward? aunswere me to that, and Poynes there.

Poin. Zoundes ye fat paunch, and ye call me coward, by the Lord, ile stab thee.

Fals. I call thee coward? ile see thee damnde ere I call thee coward, but I would giue a thousand pound I coule runne as fast as thou canst. You are straight enough in the shoulders, you care not who sees your backe; call you that backing of your friends? a plague vpon such backing: giue mee them that will face me; giue me a cup of sacke. I am a rogue if I drunke to day.

Prin. O villain, thy lips are scarce wip't since thou drūk't last.

Fals. All is one for that.

He drinketh.

A plague of all cowards, still say I.

Prin. What's the matter?

Fals. What's the matter? there be foure of vs here haue tane a thousand pound this day morning.

Prin. Where is it, lacke, where is it?

Fals. Where is it, taken from vs it is: a hundred vpon poore foure of vs.

Prin. What, a hundred, man?

Fals. I am a rogue, if I were not at halfe sword, with a douzen of theintwo houres together. I haue scap't by myracle. I am eight times thrust through the doublet, foure through the hose,
my

of Henry the fourth.

my buckler cut through and through, my sworde hack't like a hand-saw, *ecce signum*. I neuer dealt better since I was a man, al would not do. A plague of all cowards, let them speake, if they speake more or lesse then trueth, they are villains, and the sonnes of darkenesse.

Gad. Speake, sirs, how was it?

Ross. We foure set vpon some douzen,

Fal. Sixeteene, at least, my Lord.

Ross. And bound them.

Peto. No, no, they were not bound.

Fal. You rogue, they were bound, euery man of them, or I am a Iew esse, and Ebrew Iew.

Ross. As we were sharing, some sixe or seuen fresh men set vpon vs.

Fal. And vnbound the rest, and then come in the other.

Prin. What, fought ye with them all?

Fal. All: I know not what ye call all: but if I fought not with fiftie of them, I am a bunch of radish: if there were not two or three and fiftie vpon poore olde lacke, then am I no two leg'd creature.

Prin. Pray God, you haue not murdered some of them.

Fal. Nay, that's past praying for, I haue pepper'd two of the. Two I am sure I haue paied, two rogues in buckrom suites: I tell thee what, Hal, if I tell thee a lie, spit in my face; call me horse: thou knowest my olde warde: here I lay, and thus I bore my point; foure rogues in buckrom let driue at me.

Prin. What, foure? thou sayd'st but two, euen now.

Fal. Foure, Hal, I told thee foure.

Poin. I, I, he said, foure.

Fal. These foure came all afront, and mainely thrust at me; I made me no more adoe, but tooke all their seuen points in my target, thus.

Prin. Seuen? why there were but foure, enen now.

Fal. In Buckrom.

Poynt. I, foure, in Buckrom suites.

Fal. Seuen, by these hils, or I am a villaine else.

Prince. Prethee let him alone, we shall haue more anon.

Fal. Doeſt thou heare me, Hal?

Prince.

The Historie

Prin. I, and marke thee too, lacke.

Fals. Do so, for it is worth the lütning to, these nine in Buckrom that I told thee of.

Prin. So, two more already.

Fals. Their points being broken.

Poin. Downe fell his hofe.

Fals. Began to giue me ground: but I followed me close, came in, foot, and hand, & with a thought, seuen of the eleuen I paid.

Prin. O monitrous! eleuen Buckrom men growne out of two?

Fals. But as the deuill would haue it, three misbegotten knaues in Kendall greene came at my backe, and let driue at me, for it was so darke, Hal, that thou could'st not see thy hand.

Prin. These lyes are like the father that begets thē, grosse as a mountaine, open, palpable. Why thou clay-brain'd guts, thou knotty-pated foole, thou horeson obscene greasie tallow-catch.

Fals. What, art thou mad? art thou mad? is not the truth the truth?

Prin. Why, how could'st thou know these men in Kendall green, whē it was so darke thou could'st not see thy hand? come tell vs your reason. What sayest thou to this?

Poin. Come your reason, Iacke, your reason.

Fals. What, vpon compulsion? Zoundes, and I were at the strappado, or all the racks in the worlde, I would not tel you on compulsion. Giue you a reason on compulsion? if reasons were as plentie as blacke-berries, I would giue no man a reason vpon compulsion, I.

Prince. He be no longer guiltie of this sinne. This sanguine coward, this bedpresser, this horse-backe-breaker, this huge hill of flesh.

Fa. Zbloud you starueling, you elfskin, you dried neatstoung, you bullpizzel, you stockfish! O for breath to vtter, what is like thee? you tailers yard, you sheath, you bowcase, you vile stāding tuck.

Prin. Wel, breathe a while, and then to it againe, & when thou hast tired thy selfe in base cōparisons, heare me speake but this.

Poynes. Marke, Iacke.

Prin. We two saw you foure set on foure, & bound them, and were masters of their wealth: marke now how a plaine tale shall put you downe, then did wee two set on you foure, and with a worde,

of Henry the fourth.

worde, outface you from your prize, & haue it, yea, & can shew it you here in the house: and Falstaffe, you carried your guts away as nimbly, with as quicke dexteritie, & roard for mercy, and stil run and roare, as euer I heard Bul-calf. What a slaue art thou to hacke thy sword as thou hast done? & then say it was in fight. What tricke? what deuice? what starting hole canst thou now find out, to hide thee from this open and apparant shame?

Poin. Come, let's heare. Iacke, what tricke hast thou now?

Falst. By the Lord, I knew yee as well as hee that made yee. Why, heare you, my masters, was it for me, to kill the heire apparant? should I turne vpon the true Prince? why, thou knowest, I am as valiant, as Hercules: but, beware instinct, the lyon will not touch the true Prince, instinct is a great matter. I was a coward on instinct, I shall thinke the better of my selfe, and thee, during my life; I, for a valiant lyon, and thou, for a true Prince: but, by the Lord, lads, I am glad you haue the money. Hostesse, clap to the doores, watch to night, pray to morrow, gailants, lads, boyes, hearts of gold, all the titles of good fellowship come to you. What, shall we bee merrie, shall we haue a play extempore?

Prin. Content, and the argument shall be, thy running away.

Fa. A, no more of that, Hal, & thou louest me. *Enter hostesse.*

Ho. O Iesu, my Lord the Prince!

Prin. How now, my lady the hostesse, what saist thou to me?

Ho. Marry, my L. there is a noble-man of the court, at doore, would speake with you: he sayes, he comes from your Father.

Prin. Giue him as much, as will make him a royall man, and send him backe againe to my mother.

Fal. What maner of man is he?

Ho. An old man.

Fal. What doth grautie out of his bed at midnight? Shall I giue him his answer?

Prin. Prethee do, Iacke. *Fal.* Faith, and ile send him packing.

Exit.

Prin. Now sirs, birlady you fought faire, so did you Peto, so did you Bardol, you are lions to, you ran away vpon instinct, you will not touch the true Prince, no sic.

Bar. Faith, I ran, when I saw others runne.

E

Prin.

The Historie

Prin. Faith, tell me now in earnest, how came Falstaffs sword so hackt?

Peto. Why, hee hackt it with his dagger, and said hee would sweare trueth out of England, but he would make you belecue it was done in fight, and perswaded vs to doe the like.

Car. Yea, and to tickle our noses with speare-grasse, to make them bleed, and then to beslubber our garments with it, and sweare it was the blood of true men. I did that I did not this seuen yeere before, I blusht to heare his monstrous deuices.

Prin. O villaine, thou stoolest a cup of Sacke eightene yeers ago, and wert taken with the maner, and euer since thou hast blusht extempore, thou hadst fire and sword on thy side, and yet thou ranst away: what instinct hadst thou for it?

Bar. My Lord, do you see these meteors? do you behold these exhalations?

Prince. I doe.

Bar. What thinke you they portend?

Prin. Hot liners, and co'd purses.

Bar. Choler, my Lord, if rightly taken.

Enter Falstaffe.

Prin. No, if rightly taken, halter. Here comes leane Iacke, here comes bare bone: how now my sweete creature of burn-bast, how long is't ago, Iacke, since thou saw'st thine owne knee?

Fal. My owne knee? when I was about thy yeeres (Hal) I was not an Eagles talent in the waste: I could haue crept into any Aldermans thumbe ring: a plague of sighing & grieve, & blowes a man vp like a bladder. Ther's villainous newes abroad, here was sir Iohn Bracy from your father: you must to the Court in the morning. That same mad fellow: of the North, Percy, and he of Wales, that gaue Amamon the bastinado, and made Lucifer cuckold, and swore the diuell his true liegeman vpon the crosse of a Welsh hooke: what a plague call you him?

Poines. O, Glendower.

Fal. Owen, Owen, the same, and his sonne in law Mortimer, and old Northumberland, and that sprightly Scot of Scottes, Dowglas, that runnes a horse-backe vp a hill perpendicular.

Prin. He that rides at high speede, and with his pistol killes a sparrow flying.

Fal.

of Henry the fourth.

Fal. You haue hit it.

Prin. So did he neuer the sparrow.

Fal. Well, that rascall hath good mettall in him, hee will not runne.

Prin. Why, what a rascall art thou then, to praise him so for running?

Fal. A horsebacke (ye cuckow) but afoote he will not budge a foote.

Prin. Yes lacke, vpon instinct.

Falst. I grant ye, vpon instinct: well, he is there too, and one Mordacke, and a thousand blew caps more. Worcester is stolne away to night, thy fathers beard is turnd white with the newes, you may buy land now as cheape, as stinking Mackrel.

Prin. Why then, it is like, if there come a hotte Iune, and this ciuill buffeting hold, we shall buy maidenheads, as they buy hob-nailes, by the hundreds.

Falst. By the masse, lad, thou saist true, it is like we shall haue good trading that way: but, tell me, Hal, art not thou horrible afeard? thou being here apparant, could the world picke thee out three such enemies againe, as that fiend Dowglas, that spirit Percy, & that diuell Glendower? art thou not horribly afraid? doth not thy blood thril at it?

Prin. Not a whit ifaith, I lacke some of thy instinct.

Falst. Well, thou wilt be horribly chidde to morrow when thou comdest to thy father, if thou loue mee: practise an answer.

Prince. Do thou stand for my father, and examine me vpon the particulars of my life.

Fal. Shall I? content. This chaire shall be my state, this dagger my scepter, and this cushion my crowne.

Prin. Thy state is taken for a ioynd stoole, thy golden scepter for a leaden dagger, and thy precious rich crowne, for a pitiful bald crowne.

Fal. Well, and the fire of grace bee not quite out of thee, now shalt thou be mooued. Giue mee a cup of Sacke to make my eyes looke redde, that it may bee thought I haue wept, for I must speake in passion, and I will doe it, in king Cambyses vaine,

The Historie

Prince. Well, here is my leg.

Fal. And here is my speech; stand aside, Nobilitie.

Ho. O Iesu, this is excellent sport, I faith.

Fal. Weepe not, sweet Queene, for trickling teares are vain.

Ho. O the father, how he holds his countenance?

Fal. For Gods sake, Lords, conuay my trustfull Queene,
For teares doe stop the floud-gates of her eyes.

Ho. O Iesu, he doth it, as like one of these harlotrie plaiers,
as euer I see.

Fal. Peace, good pint-pot, peace, good tickle-braine.

Harry, I doe not onely maruaile, where thou spendest thy time: but also, how thou art accompanied. For, though the camomill, the more it is troden on, the faster it growes: so youth, the more it is wasted, the sooner it weares: that thou art my son, I haue partly thy mothers word, partly my owne opinion, but chiefly, a villanous tricke of thine eye, and a foolish hanging of thy neather lip, that doth warrant me. If then thou be sonne to me, here lies the point: why, beeing sonne to mee, art thou so pointed at? Shall the blessed sonne of heauen, prooue a micher, and eat blacke-berries? a question not to be askt. Shall the son of England, prooue a theefe, and take purles? a question to be askt. There is a thing, Harry, which thou hast often heard of, and it is known to many in our land, by the name of pitch. This pitch, (as ancient writers do report) doth defile: so doth the companie thou keepest: for Harry, now I doe not speake to thee in drinke, but in teares; not in pleasure, but in passiō; not in words onely, but in woes also: and yet there is a vertuous man, whom I haue often noted in thy company, but I know not his name.

Prin. What maner of man, and it like your Maiestie?

Fal. A goodly portly man ifaith, and a corpulent, of a cheerefull looke, a pleasing etc, & a most noble carriage, & as I think, his age some fiftie, or birlady, inclining to threelcore, and now I remember mee, his name is *Falstaffe*: if that man should bee lewdly giuen, hee deceiueth me. For Harry, I see vertue in his lookes: if then the tree may bee knowne by the fruit, as the fruit by the tree, then, peremptorily I speake it, there is vertue in that *Falstaffe*, him keepe with, the rest banish: & tel me now, thou naughtie varlet, tell me, where hast thou bin, this month?

Prin.

of Henry the fourth.

Prin. Dost thou speake like a king? do thou stand for me, and ile play my father.

Fals. Depose me, if thou dost it halfe so grauely, so maiestically both in word and matter, hang me vp by the heeles for a rabbit sucker, or a poulters Hare.

Prin. Well, here I am set.

Fals. And here I stand, iudge, my masters.

Prin. Now, Harry, whence come you?

Fals. My noble Lord, from Eastcheape.

Prince. The complaints I heare of thee, are grievous.

Fals. Zblood, my Lord, they are false: nay, ile tickle ye for a yong prince I saith.

Prin. Swearst thou, vngacious boy? henceforth ne're looke on me, thou art violently carried away from grace, there is a deuill haunts thee, in the likenesse of an olde fat man, a tan of man is thy companion: why dost thou conuerse with that trunke of humours, that boultinhutch of beastlinesse, that swolne parcell of dropsies, that huge bombard of sacke, that stuff cloakebag of guts, that rosted Manningtree Oxe with the pudding in his belly, that reuerent vice, that gray iniquitie, that father ruffian, that vanitie in yeeres? wherein is he good, but to taste sacke & drinke it? wherein neat & cleanly, but to carue a capon & eat it? wherein cunning, but in craft? wherein craftie, but in villanie? wherein villanous, but in all things? wherein worthy, but in nothing?

Fals. I would your grace would take mee with you, whome it meanes your grace?

Prince. That villanous abominable misleader of youth: Falstalffe, that olde white bearded Sathan.

Fals. My Lord, the man I know.

Prin. I know, thou doest.

Fals. But to say, I know more harme in him, then in my self, were to say more then I know: that he is old, the more the pittie, his white haire doe witness it, but that he is fauouring your reuerence, a whoremaster, that I vtterly deny: if sacke and sugar be a fault, God helpe the wicked; if to be old and mery be a sin, the many an old host that I know is damn'd; if to be fat, be to be hated, the Pharaos leane king are to be loued, No, my good lord, banish Peto, banish Bardol, banish Poines, but for sweet Iacke

The Historie

Falstaffe, kinde Iacke Falstaffe, true Iacke Falstaffe, valiant Iacke Falstaffe, and therefore more valiant, being as he is olde Iacke Falstaffe, banish not him thy Harries companie, banish not him thy Harries companie, banish plumpe Iacke, and banish all the world.

Prin. I, do, I will.

Enter Bardoll running.

Bar. O, my Lord, my Lord, the Sherife, with a most monstrous watch, is at the doore,

Fal. Out you rogue, play out the play: I haue much to say in the behalfe of that Falstaffe.

Enter the Hostesse.

Host. O Iesu, my Lord, my Lord!

Prince. Heigh, heigh, the diuel rides vpon a fiddle sticke, what's the matter?

Host. The Sherife and al the watch are at the doore, they are come to search the house, shall I let them in?

Fal. Doeſt thou heare, Hal? neuer call a true piece of golde a counterfet, thou art essentially made without seeming ſo.

Prince. And thou, a naturall coward without inſtinct.

Fal. I deny your Maior, if you wil deny the Sherife ſo, if not, let him enter. If I become not a Cart as well as another man, a plague on my bringing vp: I hope I ſhall as ſoone be ſtrangled with a halter as another.

Prin. Go, hide thee behinde the Arras, the reſt walke vp aboue: now my maſters, for a true face, and good conſcience,

Fal. Both which I haue had, but their date is out, and therefore ile hide me.

Prin. Call in the Sherife.

Enter Sherife and the Carrier.

Prin. Now, maſter Sherife, what is your will with me?

She. Firſt, pardon me, my Lord. A hue and cry hath followed certaine men vnto this houſe.

Prin. What men?

She. One of them is well knowen, my gracious Lord, a groſſe fat man.

Car. As fat, as butter.

Prin. The man, I do aſſure you is not here,
For I my ſelfe at this time haue unploid him:

And

of Henry the fourth.

And Sherife, I will ingage my word to thee,
That I will by to morrow dinner time,
Send him to answere thee or any man,
For any thing he shall be charg'd withall,
And so let me intreat you leaue the house.

She. I will, my Lord: there are two gentlemen
Haue, in this robbery, lost 300. markes.

Prin. It may be so: if he haue rob'd these men,
He shall be answerable: and so farewell.

She. God night, my noble Lord.

Prin. I thinke it is god morrow, is it not?

She. Indeed, my Lord, I thinke it be two a clocke. *Exit.*

Prin. This oylie rascal is knowne as well as Poules: goe call
him forth.

Peto. Falstaffe? fast asleepe behinde the Arras, and snorting
like a horse.

Pri. Harke, how hard he fetches breath, search his pockets.

He searcheth his pocket, and findeth certaine papers.

Prin. What hast thou found?

Pet. Nothing but papers, my Lord.

Prin. Let's see what they be: read them.

Item, a capon.

2.s.ii.d.

Item, sawce.

iii.d.

Item, sacke, two gallons.

v.s.viii.d.

Item, anchaues and sacke after supper.

2.s.vi.d.

Item, bread.

ob.

O monstrous! but one halfe peniworth of bread to this intole-
rable deale of sack? what there is else keep close, wee'll read it at
more aduantage: there let him sleepe till day; ile to the court in
the morning. We must all to the warres, and thy place shall be
honorable. Ile procure this fat rogue a charge of foote, and I
know his death wil be a march of twelue score, the money shall
be paid backe againe with aduantage; bee with me betimes in
the morning, and so good morrow Peto.

Peto. Good morrow, good my Lord.

Exeunt.

Enter Hotspur, Worcester, Lord Mortimer,

Owen Glendower.

Mor. These promises are faire, the parties sure,

And

The Historie

And our induction full of prosperous hope,

Hot. Lord Mortimer, and cooten Glendower wilyou sit down?
and Vncle Worcester; a plague vpon it, I haue forgot the map.

Glendow. No, here it is; sit Coosen Percie, sit good Coosen
Hotspur, for by that name, as oft as Lancaster doth speake of you,
his cheeke lookes pale, and with a rising sight he wisheth you in
heauen.

Hot. And you in hell, as oft as he heares Owen Glendower
spoke of.

Glen. I cannot blame him; at my natiuitie
The front of heauen wast full of fierie shapes
Of burning cressets, and at my birth
The frame and foundation of the earth
Shaked like a coward.

Hot. Why, so it would haue done at the same season, if your
mothers cat had but kittened, though your selfe had neuer bene
borne.

Glen. I say, the earth did shake when I was borne.

Hot. And I say, the earth was not of my munde,
If you suppose, as fearing you, it shooke.

Glen. The heauens were all on fire, the earth did tremble,

Hot. Oh, then the earth shooke to see the heauens on fire,
And not in feare of your natiuitie,

Diseased nature oftentimes breakes forth
In strange eruptions, oft the teeming earth
Is with a kind of collicke pincht and vex't,
By the inprisoning of vnuly winde
Within her wombe, which for enlargement striving,
Shakes the old Beldame earth, and topples downe
Steeple and mossegrown towers. At your birth
Our Grandam earth, hauing this distemperature
In passion shooke.

Glen. Coosen, of many men
I do not beare these crosings: giue me leaue
To tell you once againe, that at my birth
The front of heauen wast full of fierie shapes,
The goates ran from the mountaines, and the heards
Were strangely clamorous to the frighted fields.

These

of Henry the fourth.

These signes haue markt me extraordinary,
And all the courses of my life doe shew,
I am not in the roule of common men:
Where is he liuing, clipt in with the sea,
That chides the bancks of England, Scotland, Wales,
Which calls me pupill, or hath read to me?
And bring him out, that is but womans sonne,
Can trace me in the tedious waies of Arte,
And hold me pace, in deepe experiments.

Hot. I thinke, there's no man speaks better Welsh:
He to dinner.

Mor. Peace, coosen Percy, you will make him mad.

Glen. I can call spirits from the vasty deepe.

Hot. Why, so can I, or so can any man:

But will they come, when you doe call for them?

Glen. Why, I can teach you coosen, to command the deuill.

Hot. And I can teach thee, coose, to shame the deuill;

By telling truth. Tell truth and shame the deuill:

If thou haue power to rayse him, bring him hither,

And ile be sworne, I haue power to shame him hence:

Oh while you liue, tell truth and shame the deuill.

Mor. Come, come, no more of this vnprofitable chat.

Glen. Three times hath Henry Bullingbrooke made head
Against my power, thrice from the bancks of Wye,
And sandy bottomd Seuerne haue I sent him
Bootles home, and weather-beaten backe.

Hot. Home without bootes, and in foule weather too?
How scapes he agues, in the deuils name?

Glen. Come, here is the map, shal we deuide our right,
According to our threefold order tane?

Mor. The Arch-deacon hath deuided it
Into three limits, very equally:
England from Trent, and Seuerne hitherto,
By South and East, is to my part assignd:
All Westward, Wales beyond the Seuerne shore,
And all the fertile land within that bound,
To Owen Glendower: and deare coose, to you,
The remnant Northward, lying off from Trent,

E

And

The Historie

And our indentures tripartite are drawne,
Which being sealed interchangeably,
(A businesse that this night may execute:)
To morrow, coosen Percy, you and I,
And my good Lord of Worcester, will set forth
To meet your father, and the Scottish power,
As is appointed vs, at Shrewsbury.

My father Glendower is not ready yet,
Nor shall we need his helpe these fourteene daies:
Within that space, you may haue drawn together
Your tenants, friends, & neighbouring gentlemen.

Glen. A shorter time shall send me to you, Lords,
And in my conduct shall your Ladies come,
From whom you now must steale, & take no leaue,
For there will be a world of water shed,
Vpon the parting of your wiues and you.

Hot. Me thinks, my moity North frō Burton here,
In quantitie equals not one of yours:
See, how this riuer comes me cranking in,
And cuts me from the best of all my land,
A huge halfe moone, a monstrous scantle out:
He haue the currant in this place damnd vp,
And here the smug and siluer Trent shall run
In a new channell, faire and euenly,
It shall not wind, with such a deepe indent,
To rob me of so rich a bottome here.

Glen. Not wind? it shall, it must, you see it doth.

Hot. Yea, but marke, how he beares his course, and runs me
vp, with like aduantage on the other side, gelding the opposed
continent, as much, as on the other side, it takes from you.

Wor. Yea, but a little charge will trench him here,
And on this Northside, win this cape of land,
And then he runs straight, and euen.

Hot. He haue it so, a little charge will doe it.

Glen. He not haue it alfred.

Hot. Will not you?

Glen. No, nor you shall not.

Hot. Who shall say me nay?

Glen.

of Henry the fourth.

Glen. Why, that will I.

Hot. Let me not vnderstand you then, speake it in Welsh.

Glen. I can speake English, Lord, as well as you,
For, I was traird vp in the English Court,
Where, being but yong, I framed to the harpe
Many an English ditty, louely well,
And gaue the tongue a helpfull ornament:
A vertue, that was neuer seene in you.

Hot. Marry, and I am glad of it, with all my heart,
I had rather be a kitten and cry mew,
Then one of these same miter ballet-mongers:
I had rather heare a brasen cansticke turnd,
Or a drie wheele grate on the axle-tree,
And that would set my teeth nothing an edge,
Nothing so much as minsing Poetry:
T'is like the forc't gate of a shuffling nag.

Glen. Come, you shall haue Trent turnd.

Hot. I do not care, ile giue thrice so much land,
To any well deseruing friend:
But in the way of bargaine, marke ye me:
Ile caull on the ninth part of a haire.
Are the Indentures drawne? shall we be gone?

Glen. The Moone shines faire, you may away by night:
Ile haste the writer, and withall,
Breake with your wiues, of your departure hence,
I am afraid my daughter will run mad,
So much she doteth on her Mortimer. *Exit.*

Mor. Fie, coosen Percy, how you crosse my father.

Hot. I cannot chuse, sometime he angers me
With telling me of the Moldwarpe and the Ant,
Of the dreamer Merlin and his prophecies:
And, of a Dragon and a finlesse fish,
A clip-wingd Griffin and a moulted rauens,
A couching Lyon, and a ramping Cat,
And such a deale of skimble skamble stuffe,
As puts me from my faith. I tell you what,
He held me last night, at least, nine houres,
In reckoning vp the seuerall diuels names

The Historie

That were his lackies: I cried hum, and well, go to,
But markt him not a word. O, he is as tedious
As a tyred horse, a railing wife,
Worse then a smoky house. I had rather liue
With cheese and garlike in a Windmill far,
Then feede on cates, and haue him talke to me,
In any summer-house in Christendome.

Mor. In faith he is a worthy Gentleman,
Exceedingly well read and profited
In strange concealments, valiant as a lion,
And wondrous affable; and as bountifull
As mines of India: shall I tell you, coosen,
He holds your temper in a high respect,
And curbs himselfe, euen of his naturall scope,
When you come crosse his humor, faith he does:
I warrant you, that man is not aliue,
Might so haue tempted him, as you haue done,
Without the taste of danger and reproofe:
But doe not vse it oft, let me intreat you.

Wor. In faith, my Lord, you are too wilfull blame,
And since your conning hither haue done enough
To put him quite beside his patience:
You must needs learne, Lord, to amend this fault,
Though sometimes it shew greatnesse, courage, bloud;
And that's the dearest grace it renders you,
Yet oftentimes it doth present harsh rage,
Defect of maners, want of gouernment,
Pride, haughtinesse, opinion, and disdain,
The least of which, hanting a noble man,
Loseth mens hearts, and leaues behind a staine
Vpon the beautie of all parts besides,
Beguiling them of commendation.

Hot. Well, I am schoold, good maners be your speed,
Here come our wiues, and let vs take our leaue.

Enter Glendower with the Ladies.

Mor. This is the deadly spight that angers me,
My wife can speake no English, I no Welsh.

Glen. My daughter weepes, shee'le not part with you,

Shhee'le

28
of Henry the fourth.

Shee'le be a souldier too, shee'le to the wars.

Mor. Good father tell her, that she, and my Aunt Percy
Shal follow in your conduct speedily.

*Glendower speakes to her in Welsh, and she answeres
him in the same.*

Glen. Shee is desperate here,
A peeuish selfe wilde harlotrie, one that no perswasion can doe
good vpon.

The Ladie speakes in Welsh.

Mor. I vnderstand thy lookes, that prettie Welsh,
Which thou powrest downe from these swelling heauens,
I am too perfect in, and but for shame
In such a parley should I answer thee.

The Lady againe in Welsh.

Mor. I vnderstand thy kisses, and thou mine,
And that's a feeling disputation:
But I will neuer be a truant loue,
Till I haue learn'd thy language, for thy tongue
Makes Welsh as sweet as ditties highly pend,
Sung by a faire Queene in a summers bowre,
With rauishing diuision to her Lute.

Glen. Nay, if you melt, then will she runne mad.

The Lady speakes againe in Welsh.

Mor. O, I am ignorance it selfe in this.

Glen. She bids you on the wanton rushes lay you downe:
And rest your gentle head vpon her lap,
And she will sing the song that pleaseth you,
And on your eyelids crowne the God of sleepe,
Charming your blood with pleasing heauinesse,
Making such difference twixt wake and sleepe,
As is the difference betwixt day and night,
The houre before the heavenly harnett teeme
Begins his golden progresse in the East.

Mor. With all my heart, ile sit and heare her sing,
By that time will our booke I thinke be drawne.

Glen. Do so, and those musicions that shall play to you,
Hang in the aire a thousand leagues from hence,
And straight they shall be here, sit and attend.

The Historie

Hot. Come, Kate, thou art perfect in lying downe:
Come, quick, quick, that I may lay my head in thy lap.

La. Go, ye giddy goose.

The musicke player.

Hot. Now, I perceiue the diuel vnderstands Welsh,
And 'tis no maruaile he is so humorous,
Birlady he is a good musician.

La. Then should you be nothing but musically,
For you are altogether gouerned by humours:
Lie still, ye thiefe, and heare the lady sing in Welsh.

Hot. I had rather heare, lady, my brache howle in Irish.

La. Would 'it thou haue thy head broken?

Hot. No.

La. Then be still.

Hot. Neither, 'tis a womans fault.

La. Now God helpe thee.

Hot. To the Welsh Ladies bed,

La. What's that?

Hot. Peace, she sings.

Here the Lady sings a Welsh song.

Hot. Come, Kate, ile haue your song too.

La. Not mine in good sooth.

Hot. Not yours in good sooth? Hart, you sweare like a comfit-
makers wife, not you in good sooth, and as true as I liue, and as
God shall mend me, and as sure as day:

And giuest such sarcenet suretie for thy oathes,

As if thou neuer walk'it further then Finsburie,

Sweare me, Kate, like a lady as thou art,

A good mouthfilling oath, and leaue in sooth,

And such protest of pepper ginger bread

To veluet gards, and Sunday Citizens.

Come, sing.

La. I will not sing.

Hot. 'Tis the next way to turne tayler, or be redbrest teacher:
and the indentures be drawne, ile away within these two houres,
and so come in when ye will.

Exit.

Glen. Come, come, Lord Mortimer, you are as slow,
As *Hot.* Lord Percy, is on fire to goe:

By

24
of Henry the fourth.

By this our booke is drawne, weel'e but seale,
And then to horse immediately.

Mor. With all my heart.

Exeunt.

Enter the King, Prince of Wales, and others.

King. Lords, giue vs leaue, the Prince of Wales and I,
Must haue some priuat conference, but be neere at hand,
For we shall presently haue neede of you. *Exeunt Lords.*

I knowe not whether God will haue it so,
For some displeasing seruice I haue done,
That in his secret doome, out of my blood,
Hee'le breed reuengement and a scourge for me:
But thou doest in the passages of life,
Make me belecue that thou art onely mark't,
For the hot vengeance and the rod of heauen,
To punish my mistreadings. Tell me else,
Could such inordinate and low desires,
Such poore, such bare, such lewd, such meane attempts,
Such barren pleasures, rude societie,
As thou art match't withall, and grafted to,
Accompany the greatnesse of thy blood,
And hold their leuell with thy princely heart?

Prin. So please your Maiestie, I would I could
Quit all offences with as cleare excuse,
As well as I am doubtlesse I can purge
My selfe of many I am charg'd withall:
Yet such extenuation let me beg,
As in reproofe of many tales deuilde,
Which oft the eare of greatnes needes must heare,
By smiling pickthanks and base newes mongers,
I may for some things true, wherein my youth
Hath faltie wandered, and irregular,
Find pardon, on my true submission.

King. God pardon thee, yet let me wonder, Harry,
At thy affections, which do hold a wing
Quite from the flight of all thy auncestors,
Thy place in counsell thou hast rudely lost,
Which by thy younger brother is supplide,
And art almost an alien to the hearts

Q

The Historic

Of all the Court and princes of my blood,
The hope and expectation of thy time
Is ruin'd, and the soule of euery man
Prophetically doe forethinke thy fall :
Had I to lauish of my presence beene,
So common hackneid in the eyes of men,
So stale and cheape to vulgar companie,
Opinion that did helpe me to the crowne,
Had still kept loyall to possession,
And left me in reputelesse banishment,
A fellow of no marke nor likelihoode.
By being seldome scene, I could not stirre,
But like a Comet, I was wondred at,
That men would tell their children, This is he :
Others would say, Where, which is Bullingbrook?
And then I stole all courtesie from heauen,
And drest my selfe in such humilitie,
That I did plucke allegiance from mens hearts,
Loud shouts, and salutations from their mouths,
Euen in presence of the crowned King.
Thus did I keepe my person fresh and new,
My presence like a robe pontificall,
Ne're scene, but wondred at, and so my state
Seldome, but sumptuous, shewed like a feast,
And wan by rarenesse such solemnitie.
The skipping King, he ambled vp and downe,
With shallow iesters, and rash bawin wits,
Soone kindled, and soone burnt, carded his state,
Mingled his royaltie with carping fooles,
Had his great name prophaned with their scornes,
And gaue his countenance against his name
To laugh at gibling boyes, and stand the push
Of euery beardedle vaine comparatiue,
Grew a companion to the common streetes,
Enfeost himselfe to popularitie,
That being dayly swallowed by mens eyes,
They surfettted with hony, and began to loath
The taste of sweetenesse, whereof a little

More

25
of Henry the fourth.

More then a little, is by much too much,
So when he had occasion to be seene,
He was, but as the Cuckow is in tune;
Heard, not regarded: scene, but with such eyes
As sicke and blunted with communitie,
Affoord no extraordinary gaze.
Such as is bent on sun-like Maiestie,
When it shines seldome in admiring eyes,
But rather drowzd, and hung their eye-lids down,
Slept in his face, and rendred such aspect
As cloudy men vse to their aduerfaries,
Being with his presence glutted, gorgde, and full,
And in that very line, Harry, standest thou,
For, thou hast lost thy princely priuiledge,
With vile participation. Not an eye,
But is aweary of thy common sight,
Saue mine, which hath desired to see thee more,
Which now doth that I would not haue it doe,
Make blind it selfe with foolish tendernesle.

Prin. I shall hereafter, my thrice gracious Lord,
Be more my selfe. *King.* For all the world,
As thou art to this houre, was Richard then,
When I from France set foot at Rauenspurgh,
And euen as I was then, is Percy now:
Now, by my scepter, and my soule to boote,
He hath more worthie interest to the state,
Then thou, the shadow of succession.
For of no right, nor colour like to right,
He doth fill fields with harnesse in the Realme,
Turns head against the Lyons armed iawes,
And being no more in debt to yeeres, then thou,
Leads ancient Lords, and reuerend Bishops on
To bloudie battailes, and to bruising armes.
What neuer dying honour hath he got,
Against renowned Dowglas? Whose high deeds,
Whose hot incursions, and great name in armes,
Holds from all fouldiours, chiefe maioritie,
And militarie title capitall

The Historie

Through all the kingdomes that acknowledge Christ,
Thrice hath this Hotspur Mars in swathing clothes,
This infant warriour, in his enterprises,
Discomfited great Douglas, ta'ne him once,
Enlarged him, and made a friend of him,
To fill the mouth of deepe defiance vp,
And shake the peace and safetie of our throne,
And what say you to this Percy, Northumberland,
The Archbishops grace of York, Douglas, Mortimer,
Capitulate against vs, and are vp.
But, wherefore doe I tell these newes to thee?
Why, Harry, doe I tell thee of my foes,
Which art my needest and dearest enemy,
Thou that art like enough, through vassall feare,
Base inclination, and the start of spleene,
To fight against me, vnder Percies pay,
To dog his heeles, and turtie at his frowner,
To shew, how much thou art degenerate.
Prin. Do not thinke so, you shall not find it so,
And God forgie them, that so much haue swayd
Your Maiesties good thoughts away from me,
I will redeeme all this on Percies head,
And, in the closing of some glorious day,
Be bold to tell you that I am your sonne,
When I will weare a garment all of bloud,
And staine my fauors in a bloody maske,
Which washt away, shall scoure my shame with it.
And that shall be the day, when e're it lightes,
That this same child of honour and renowne,
This gallant Hotspur, this all praised knight,
And your vnthought of Harry, chance to meet,
For euery honor, sitting on his helme,
Would they were multitudes, and on my head
My shames redoubled. For the time will come
That I shall make this Northren youth exchange
His glorious deeds, for my indignities.
Percy is but my factor, good my Lord,
To engrosse vp glorious deeds on my behalfe.

And

of Henry the fourth.

And I will call him to so strict account,
That he shall render every glory vp,
Yea, even the slightest worship of his time,
Or I will teare the reckoning from his heart.
This, in the name of God, I promise here,
The which, if he be pleas'd, I shall performe:
I doe beseech your Maiesty may salve
The long growne wounds of my intemperance:
If not, the end of life cancels all bands,
And I will die, a hundred thousand deaths,
E're breake the smallest parcel of this vow.

King. A hundred thousand rebels die in this,
Thou shalt haue charge, & soueraigne trust herein.
How now good Blunt? thy looks are full of speed.

Enter Blunt.

Blunt. So hath the busines, that I come to speake of.
Lord Mortimer of Scotland hath sent word,
That Douglas and the English Rebels met,
The eleuenth of this moneth, at Shrewsbury,
A mighty, and a fearefull head they are,
(If promises be kept on euery hand,
A neuer offred foule play in a state.)

King. The Earle of Westmerland set forth to day,
With him my sonne, Lord Iohn of Lancaster,
For this aduertisement is fife dayes old,
On Wednesday next, Harry, you shall set forward.
On Thursday, we our selues will march. Our meeting
Is Bridgenorth, and Harry, you shall march
Through Gloucestershire, by which account,
Our busines valued some twelue daies hence,
Our generall forces, at Bridgenorth shall meet:
Our hands are full of busines, let's away.
Aduantage feeds him that fat, while men delay.

Exeunt.

Enter Falstaffe and Bardol.

Fal. Bardol, am I not faine away vilely since this last action?
do I not bate? doe I not dwindle? Why, my skin hangs about
me, like an old Ladies loose gowne. I am withered like an old
apple Iohn. Well, ile repent, and that suddenly, while I am in

The Historic.

some liking, I shall be out of heart shortly, and then I shall haue no strength to repent. And I haue not forgotten what the inside of a Church is made of, I am a pepper corne, a brewers horse, the inside of a Church. Company, villainous company hath beene the spoile of me.

Bar. Sir Iohn, you are so fretfull, you can not liue long.

Fal. Why, there is it, come, sing me a bawdie song, make mee merry. I was as vertuously giuen, as a gentleman need to be, vertuous enough, swore little, dic't not aboue seuen times a weeke, went to a bawdy house, not aboue once in a quarter of an houre, paid money that I borrowed three or foure times, liued well, and in good compasse, and now I liue out of all order, out of all compasse.

Bar. Why, you are so fat, sir Iohn, that you must needs bee out of all compasse: out of all reasonable compasse, sir Iohn.

Fal. Do thou amend thy face, and ile amend my life. thou art our Admiral, thou bearest the lantern in the poope, but 'tis in the nose of thee: thou art the knight of the burning lampe.

Bar. Why, sir Iohn, my face does you no harme,

Fal. No, ile bee sworne, I make as good vse of it, as many a man doth of a deaths head, or a *memento mori*. I neuer see thy face, but I thinke vpon hell fire, and Diues that liued in Purples for there hee is in his robes burning, burning. If thou wert any way giue to vertue, I would swear by thy face: my othe should bee, By this fire that Gods Angell. But thou art altogether giuen ouer: and wert indeede, but for the light in thy face, the sonne of vtter darkenesse. When thou ranst vp Gods hill in the night, to catch my horse, if I did not thinke, thou hadst bin an *ignis fatuus*, or a ball of wild-fire, there's no purchase in money. O, thou art a perpetuall triumph, an everlasting bon-fire light, thou hast saued me, a thousand Marks in Links, and Torches, walking with thee in the night, betwixt Tauerne and Tauerne: but the sacke, that thou hast drunke mee, would haue bought mee lights as good cheape, at the dearest Chandlers in Europe. I haue maintained that Salamander of yours, with fire, any time this two and thirtie yeeres, God reward me for it.

Bar. Zbloud, I would my face were in your belly.

Fal. God a mercy, so should I be sure to be heart-burnt.

How

of Henry the fourth.

How now, dame Partlet the hen, haue you enquir'd *Enter host.*
yet who pick't my pocket?

Host. Why sir Iohn, what doe you thinke, sir Iohn? doe you thinke I keepe theeues in my house? *I haue search't, I haue enquired, so has my husband, man by man, boy by boy, seruant by seruant: the tigh of a haire, was neuer lost in my house before.*

Fals. Ye lie, Hostesse, Bardoll was shau'd and lost many a haire: and ile be sworne, my pocket was pick't: go to, you are a woman, go.

Host. Who, I? No, I desie thee: Gods light, I was neuer cal'd so in mine owne house before.

Fals. Goto. I know you well inough.

Host. No, sir Iohn, you do not know me, sir Iohn: I know you sir Iohn, you owe me money, sir Iohn, and now you picke a quarrell to beguile me of it: I bought you a douzen of shirts to your backe.

Fals. Doulas, filthy doulas, I haue giuen them away to Bakers wiues, they haue made boulters of them.

Host. Now as I am a true woman, holland of viii. s. an ell: you owe money here besides, sir Iohn, for your diet, and by drinkings, and money lent you xxiii. pound.

Fals. He had his part of it, let him pay.

Host. He? alas, he is poore, he hath nothing.

Fals. How? poore: looke vpon his face. What call you rich? let them coyne his nose, let them coyne his cheekes, ile not pay a denyer: what, will you make a yonker of mee? shall I not take mine ease in mine Inne, but I shall haue my pocket pickt? I haue lost a seale ring of my grandfathers, worth fortie marke.

Host. O Iesu! I haue heard the Prince tell him, I know not how oft, that that ring was copper.

Fals. How? the prince is a lacke, a sneake up: Z blood and he were here, I would cudgell him like a dog, if he would say so.

Enter the prince marching, and Falsstaffe meetes him

playing vpon his trunchion, like a fife.

Fals. How now, lad? is the winde in that doore ifaith? must we all march?

Bar. Yea, two, and two, Newgate fashion.

Host. My Lord, I pray you heare me.

The Historie

Prin. What saist thou, mistris quickly? how doeth chy husband? I loue him well, he is an honest man.

Host. Good my Lord, heare me.

Fals. Prethee let her alone, and list to me.

Prin. What saist thou, Iacke?

Fals. The other night, I fell asleepe here, behind the Arras, and had my pocket pickt: this house is turn'd baudy house, they picke pockets.

Prin. What didst thou lose, Iacke?

Fals. Wilt thou beleue me; Hal? three or foure bonds of fortie pound a piece, and a scale ring of my grandfathers.

Prin. A trifle, some eight pemie matter.

Host. So I told him, my Lord, and I said, I heard your grace say so: & my lord, he speakes most vilely of you, like a foule mouth'd man, as he is, and said he would cudgel you.

Prin. What he did not?

Host. There's neither faith, truth, nor womanhood in me else.

Fals. There's no more faith in thee, then a stued prune, nor no more truth in thee, then in a drawen foxe, and for womanhood, maid mariõ may be the deputies wife of the ward to thee. Go, you thing, go.

Host. Say, what thing, what thing?

Fals. What thing? why a thing to thanke God on.

Host. I am nothing to thanke God on, I would thou should'st know it, I am an honest mans wife, and setting thy knight hood aside, thou art a knaue to call me so.

Fals. Setting thy womanhood aside, thou art a beast to say otherwise.

Host. Say, what beast, thou knaue thou?

Fals. What beast? why, an Otter.

Prince. An Otter, sir Iohn? why an Otter?

Fals. Why? shee's neither fish nor flesh, a man knowes not where to haue her.

Host. Thou art an vnjust man, in saying so, thou or any man knowes where to haue me, thou knaue thou.

Prin. Thou sayst true, Hostesse, and hee slaundershee most grossely.

Host. So he doeth you, my Lord, and sayd this other day, You ought

of Henry the fourth.

ought him a thousand pound.

Prin. Sirra, do I owe you a thousand pound?

Fals. A thousand pound, Hal: a million: thy loue is worth a million: thou owest me thy loue.

Hof. Nay, my Lord, he cald you lacke, and saide hee woulde cudgel you.

Fals. Did I, Bardol?

Bar. Indeed, sir Iohn, you sayd so.

Fals. Yea, if he said my ring was copper.

Prin. I say t'is copper: darest thou be as good as thy word now?

Fals. Why, Hal? Thou knowest as thou art-but man I dare, but as thou art prince, I feare thee as I feare the roaring of the Lyons whelpe.

Prin. And why not as the Lyon?

Fal. The king himselfe is to be feared as the Lion: dost thou thinke ile feare thee, as I feare thy father? nay, and I doe, I pray God my girdle breake.

Prin. O, if it should, howe woulde thy guts fall about thy knees? but sirra, there's no roome for faith, tructh, nor honestie, in this bosome of thine. It is all fil'd vp with guttes, and midriffe, Charge an honest woman with picking thy pocket? why, thou horeson impudent imboist rascal, if there were any thing in thy pocket, but tauerne reckonings, memorandums of bawdy houses, and one poore peniworth of Sugar-candie to make thee longwinded: if thy pocket were inricht with any other iniuries but these, I am a villaine, and yet you will stand to it, you wil not pocket vp wrong: art thou not ashamed?

Fal. Dost thou heare, Hal? thou knowest in the state of innocencie Adam fell, & what should poore lacke Falstafse do in the dayes of villanie? thou seest I haue more flesh then another man, & therfore more frailty. You confesse the you pickt my pocket.

Prin. It appeares so by the storie.

Fal. Hostesse, I forgiue thee, goe make ready breakfast, loue thy husband, looke to thy seruantes, cherish thy ghests, thou shalt find me tractable to any honest reason: thou seest I am pacified still: nay, prethee be gone.

Exit Hostesse.

Now, Hal, to the newes at court for the robbery, lad: how is that answered?

Prin.

The Historie

Prin. O, my sweete beoffe, I must still be good angel to thee,
the money is paid backe againe.

Fal. O, I doe not like that paying backe, 't is a double labour.

Pri. I am good friends with my father, and may do any thing.

Fal. Rob me the Exchequer the first thing thou doest, and do
it with vnwash't hands too.

Bar. Do, my Lord.

Prin. I haue procured thee, Iacke, a charge of foote.

Fal. I would it had been of horse. Where shal I finde one that
can steale well? O, for a fine thiefe of the age of xxii. or therea-
bouts; I am hainouly vnprouded. Well, God be thanked for
these rebels, they offend none but the vertuous; I laude them, I
prayse them.

Prin. Bardoll.

Bar. My Lord,

Pri. Go, beare this letter to Lord Iohn of Lancaster,
To my brother Iohn, this, to my lord of Westmerland.

Go, Peto, to horse, to horse, for thou and I
Haue thirtie miles to ride yet e're dinner time:
Iacke, meete me to morrow in the temple hall

At two a clocke in the afternoone,
There shalt thou know thy charge, and there receiue
Money and order for their furniture.

The land is burning, Percy stands on high,
And either we or they must lower lie.

Fal. Rare words, braue world. Hostesse, my breakefast, come,
Oh, I could wish this tauerne were my drum.

Exeunt.

Enter Hotspur, Worcester, and Douglas.

Hot. Well said, my noble Scot, if speaking trueth
In this fine age, were not thought flattery,
Such attribution should the Douglas haue,
As not a souldior of this seasons stampe,
Should go so generall currant through the world:
By God, I cannot flatter, I desie
The tongues of soothers, but a brauer place
In my hearts loue hath no man then your selfe:
Nay, taske me to my word, approoue me, Lord.

Douglas. Thou art the King of honour,
No man so potent breathes vpon the ground,
But I will beard him.

Enter one with letters.

Hot.

of Henry the fourth.

Hot. Doe so, and 'tis well: What letters hast thou there?
I can but thanke you.

Mef. These letters come from your father.

Hot. Letters from him? why comes he not himselfe?

Mef. He cannot come, my Lord, he is grieuous sicke.

Hot. Zounds, how has he the leisure to be sicke
In such a iustling time? who leads his power?

Vnder whose gouernment come they along?

Mef. His letters beares his mind, not I my mind.

Wor. I prethee, tell me, doth he keepe his bed?

Mef. He did, my Lord, foure dayes e're I set forth,
And at the time of my departure thence,
He was much feard by his Physicians.

Wor. I would the state of time had first bin whole,
E're he by sicknesse had bin visited:

His health was neuer better worth then now.

Hot. Sicke now, droope now: this sicknes doth infect
The very life-blood of our enterprise,

T'is catching hither, euen to our campe:

He writes me here, that inward sicknesse,

And that his friends by deputation

Could not so soone be drawn, nor did he think it meet,

To lay so dangerous and deare a trust

On any soule remou'd, but on his owne,

Yet doth he giue vs bold aduertisement,

That with our small coniunction, we should on,

To see how fortune is dispos'd to vs:

For, as he writes, there is no quailing now,

Because the king is certainly possesse

Of all our purposes: what say you to it?

Wor. Your fathers sicknesse is a maine to vs.

Hot. A perilous gash, a very limbe lopt off,

And yet, in faith, it is not his present want

Seemes more, then we shall find it: were it good,

To set the exact wealth of all our states,

All at one cast: to set so rich a maine,

On the nice hazzard of one doubtfull houre?

It were not good, for therein should we read

The Historie

The very bottome and the soule of hope,
The very list, the very vtmost bound
Of all our fortunes.

Doug. Faith, and so we should,
Where now remains a sweet reuersion,
We may boldly spend, vpon the hope, of what t^{is} to come in:
A comfort of retirement lues in this.

Hot. A randeuous, a home to flie vnto,
If that the Diuell and mischance looke big
Vpon the maiden-head of our affaires.

Hot. But yet I would your father had bin here:
The qualitie and haire of our attempt
Brookes no diuision, it will be thought
By some, that know not why he is away,
That wisdom, loyaltie, and meere dislike
Of our proceedings, kept the Earle from hence,
And thinke, how such an apprehension
May turne the tide of fearefull faction,
And breed a kind of question in our cause:
For, well you know, we of the offring side,
Must keepe aloofe from strict arbitrement,
And stop all fight-holes, euery loope, from whence
The eye of reason may prie in vpon vs.
This absence of your fathers drawes a curtaine,
That shewes the ignorant, a kind of feare
Before not dreamt of.

Hot. You straine too far,
I rather of his absence make this vse,
It lends a lustre and more great opinion,
A larger dare to our great enterprise,
Then if the Earle were here: for men must thinke,
If we without his helpe can make a head
To push against a kingdome, with his helpe
We shall or eturne it, topsie turuy downe,
Yet all goes well, yet all our ioynts are whole.

Doug. As heart can thinke, there is not such a word
Spoke of in Scotland, as this tearme of feare.

Enter Sir Ri. Vernon.

Hot.

of Henry the fourth.

Hot. My coosen Vernon, welcome by my soule.

Ver. Pray God my newes be worth a welcome, lord.
The Earle of Westmerland, seuen thousand strong,
Is marching hitherwards, with Prince Iohn.

Hot. No harme, what more?

Ver. And further I haue learnd,
The King himselfe in person is set forth,
Or hitherwards intended speedily,
With strong and mighty preparation.

Hot. He shal be welcome too: where is his sonne,
The nimble footed madcap, Prince of Wales?
And his Cumrades, that date the world aside,
And bid it passe?

Ver. All turnisht, all in Armes:
All plumde like Estridges, that with the wind
Baited like Eagles hauing lately bath'd,
Glittering in golden coats like images,
As full of spirit as the month of May,
And gorgeous as the sunne at Midsomer,
Wanton as youthfull goates, wild as young buls:
I saw young Harry with his beuer on,
His cushes on his thighs, gallantly armde,
Rise from the ground like feathered Mercury,
And vaulted with such ease into his seat,
As if an Angel dropt downe from the clouds,
To turne and wind a fiery Pegasus,
And witch the world with noble horsemanship.

Hot. No more, no more, worse then the sun in March,
This praise doth nourish agues, let them come,
They come like sacrifices in their trim,
And to the fire-eyd maid of smoky war,
All hot and bleeding will we offer them:
The mailed Mars shall on his altars sit
Vp to the eares in bloud, I am on fire
To heare this rich reprizall is so nigh,
And yet not ours: Come, let me taste my horse,
Who is to beare me like a thunderbolt,
Against the bosome of the Prince of Wales,

The Historie

Harry to Harry, shall hot horse to horse
Meet, and ne're part, till one drop downe a coarfe:
Oh, that Glendower were come.

Ver. There is more newes,
I learnd in Worcester, as I rode along,
He can draw his power this fourteene dayes.

Doug. That's the worst tidings, that I heare of it.

Wor. I, by my faith, that beares a frosty sound,

Hot. What may the kings whole battel reach vnto?

Ver. To thirty thousand.

Hot. Forty let it be,

My father and Glendower being both away,
The powers of vs may serue so great a day.
Come, let vs take a muster speedily,
Doomes day is neere, die all, die merrily.

Doug. Talke not of dying, I am out of feare
Of death or deaths hand, for this one halfe yeare.

Exeunt.

Enter Falstaffe, and Bardoll.

Falst. Bardol, get thee before to Couentry, fill me a bottle of
Sacke, our souldiours shall march through. Wee'll to Sutton
cophull to night.

Bar. Will you giue me money, Captaine?

Fal. Lay out, lay out.

Bar. This bottle makes an angell.

Fal. And if it doe, take it for thy labour, and if it make twen-
ty, take them all, ile answer the coynage, bid my Lieutenant
Peto meet me at Townes end.

Bar. I will, Captaine, farewell.

Exit.

Fal. If I be not ashamed of my souldiers, I am a souer' gurnet,
I haue misused the kings presse damnablely. I haue got in ex-
change of 150. souldiers, 300. and odde pounds. I presse me
none, but good householders, Yeomen's sonnes, inquire me out
contracted batchelers, such as had beene askt twice on the
banes, such a commoditie of warme slaues, as had as lieue heare
the Diuell, as a drumme, such as feare the report of a Caliuert,
worse the a strooke foule, or a hurt wild-ducke: I prest me none,
but such tosts and butter, with hearts in their bellies no bigger
then pinnes heads, and they haue bought out their seruices, and
now,

of Henry the fourth.

now, my whole charge consists of Ancients, Corporals, Lieutenants, gentlemen of companies, slaues as ragged as Lazarus in the painted cloth, where the gluttons dogs licked his sores: and such as indeed were neuer souldiers, but discarded, vniust seruimgmen, yonger sonnes to yonger brothers, reuolted tapiters, and Ostlers tradefalne, the cankers of a calme world, and a long peace, ten times more dishonourable ragged, then an olde fazd ancient, and such haue I, to fill vp the rooines of them as haue bought out their seruices, that you would thinke, that I had a hundred and fiftie tottered prodigals, lately come from swine keeping, from eating drasse and husks. A mad fellowe met mee on the way, and told me I had vnloaded all the Gibbets, and prest the dead bodies. No eye hath scene such skarcrowes. He not march through Couentry with them, that's flat: nay, and the villaines march wide betwixt the legs, as if they had giues on, for indeede, I had the most of them out of prison, there's not a shirt and a halfe in all my companie, and the halfe shirt is two napkins tack't together, and throwne ouer the shoulders like a Heralds coate without sleeues, and the shirt, to say the trueth, stolne from my host at S. Albones, or the red-nose Inkeeper of Dauintry, but that's all one, ther'le finde linnen inough on eue-ry hedge.

Enter the Prince, and the Lord of Westmerland.

Prin. How now, blowne lacke? how now, quilt?

Fal. What, Hal? how now, mad wag? what a diuel dost thou in Warwickshire? My good L. of Westmerland, I cry you mercie, I thought your honour had already bene at Shrewsburie.

West. Faith, sir Iohn, t'is more then time that I were there, and you too, but my powers are there already: the king I can tel you, lookes for vs all, we must away all night.

Fals. Tut, neuer feare me, I am as vigilant as a Cat, to steale Creame.

Prin. I thinke to steale Creame indeed, for thy theft hath already made thee butter: buttell me, lacke, whose fellowes are these that come after?

Fals. Mine, Hal, mine.

Prin. I did neuer see such pitifull rascals.

Fal. Tut, tut, good inough to tolle, foude for powder, foude

The Historie

for powder, they'll fill a pit as well as a better: rush man, mortall men, mortall men.

W. sr. I, but, sir Iohn, methinkes they are exceeding poore and bare: too beggerly.

Fal. Faith, for their pouertie I know not where they had that: and for their barenesse I am sure they neuer learn't that of me.

Pri. No, ile be sworne, vnlesse you cal three fingers in the ribs bare: but sirra, make hatte, Percy is already in the field. *Exit.*

Fal. What, is the king incamp't?

W. sr. He is, sir Iohn, I feare we shall stay too long.

Fal. Well, to the latter end of a fray, and the beginning of a feast, fits a dull fighter, and a keene ghest. *Exeunt.*

Enter Hotspur, Worcester, Douglas, and Vernon.

Hot. Wee'll fight with him to night.

Wor. It may not be.

Doug. You giue him then aduantage.

Ver. Not a whit.

Hot. Why, say you so? lookes he not for supply?

Ver. So do we.

Hot. His is certaine, ours is doubtfull.

Wor. Good coosen be aduis'd, stir not to night.

Ver. Do not, my Lord.

Doug. You doe not counsell well:

You speake it out of feare, and cold heart.

Ver. Do me no slander, Douglas, by my life,

And I dare well maintaine it with my life,

If well respected honor bid me on,

I hold as little counsel with weake feare,

As you, my Lord, or any Scot that this day liues:

Let be seene to morrow in the bartell, which of vs feares.

Doug. Yea, or to night.

Ver. Content.

Hot. To night, say I.

Ver. Come, come, it may not be.

I wonder much, being men of such great leading as you are,

That you foresee not what impediments

Drag backe our expedition: certaine horse

Of my coosen Vernons are not yet come vp,

Your

of Henry the fourth.

Your Vncle Worcesters horses came but to day,
And now their pride and metall is alleepe,
Their courage with hard labour tame and dull,
That not a horse is halfe the halfe of himselfe.

Hot. So are the horses of the enemye,
In generall journey bated and brought low:
The better part of ours are full of rest.

Wor. The number of the king exceedeth our:
For Gods sake, coosen, stay till all come in.

The trumpet sounds a parley. Enter sir Walter Blunt.

Blunt. I come with gracious offers from the king,
If you vouchsafe me hearing, and respect.

Hot. Welcome, sir Walter Blunt: and would to God
You were of our determination;
Some of vs loue you well, and euen those some
Enuy your great deservings and good name,
Because you are not of our qualitie,
But stand against vs like an enemye.

Blunt. And God defend, but still I should stand so,
So long as out of limit and true rule
You stand against anointed maiestie.
But to my charge. The king hath sent to know
The nature of your grieues, and whereupon
You coniare from the breast of ciuill peace,
Such bold hostilitie, teaching his dutious land
Audacious crueltie. If that the king
Haue any way your good deserts forgot
Which he confesseth to be manifold,
He bids you name your grieues, and with all speede,
You shall haue your desires with interest
And pardon absolute for your selfe, and these
Herein misled by your suggestion.

Hot. The king is kind: and wel we know, the king
Knowes at what time to promise, when to pay:
My father, and my vncle, and my selfe,
Did giue him that same royaltie he weares,
And when he was not sixe and twentie strong,
Sicke in the worlds regard, wretched and low,

The Historie

A poore vnminde outlaw sneaking home,
My father gaue him welcome to the shore:
And when he heard him sweare and vow to God,
He came but to be Duke of Lancaster,
To sue his liuery, and beg his peace
With teares of innocencie, and tearmes of zeale,
My father in kinde heart and pittie mou'd,
Swore him assistance, and perform'd it too.
Now, when the Lords, and Barons of the realme,
Perceiu'd Northumberland did leane to him,
The more and lesse came in with cap and knee,
Met him in Boroughs, Cities, Villages,
Attended him on bridges, stood in fanes,
Laid gifts before him, proffer'd him their oathes,
Gaue him their heires, as Pages followed him,
Euen at the heeles, in golden multitudes,
He presently, as greatnes knowes it selfe,
Steps me a little higher then his vow
Made to my father, while his blood was poore,
Vpon the naked shore at Rauenspurgh,
And now forsooth takes on him to reforme
Some certaine edicts, and some streight decrees
That lie too heauie on the Common-wealth,
Cryes out vpon abuses, seemes to weepe
Ouer his Countrey wrongs, and by this face,
This seeming brow of iustice, did he winne
The hearts of all that he did angle for:
Proceeded further, cut me off the heads
Of all the fauourites that the absent king
In deputation left behinde him here,
When he was personall in the Irish warre.

Blunt. Tut, I came not to heare this.

Hot. Then to the point, I say he
In short time after, he depos'd the king,
Soone after that, depriu'd him of his life,
And in the necke of that, task't the whole state:
To make that worse, suffred his kinsman March,
(Who is, if euery owner were well plac'd,

Indeede

of Henry the fourth.

Indeed his king) to being ag'd in Wales,
There without ransome to lie forfeited,
Disgrac't me in my happie victories,
Sought to intrap me by intelligence,
Rated mine vnkle from the counsell boord,
In rage dismisd my father from the Court,
Broke othe on othe, committed wrong on wrong,
And in conclusion, droue vs to seeke out
This head of safetie, and withall to prie
Into his title, the which we find
Too indirect for long continuance.

Blunt. Shall I returne this answer to the king?

Hot. Not so, sir Walter. Wee'll withdraw a while.
Go to the King, and let there be impawnd
Some suretie for a safe returne againe,
And in the morning early shall mine vnkle
Bring him our purposes, and so farewell.

Blunt. I would you would accept of grace and loue.

Hot. And may be, so we shall.

Blunt. Pray God you doe.

Enter Archbishop of Yorke, and Sir Mighel.

Arch. Hie, good sir Mighel, beare this sealed brieft
With winged haste to the Lord Marshall,
This to my coosen Scroope, and all the rest
To whom they are directed. If you knew
How much they doe import, you would make haste.

Sir M. My good Lord, I gesse their tenor.

Arch. Like enough you doe.
To morrow, good sir Mighell, is a day,
Wherein, the fortune of ten thousand men
Must bide the touch. For sir, at Shrewsbury,
As I am truly giuen to vnderstand,
The king with mighty and quicke raised power,
Meetes with Lord Harry: And I feare, sir Mighell,
What with the sickenesse of Northumberland,
Whose power was in the first proportion,
And what with Owen Glondours absence thence,
Who with them was a rated swey too,

The Historie

And comes not in, ouer-rulde by prophecies,
I feare, the power of Percy is too weake,
To wage an instant triall with the king.

Sir M. Why, my good Lord, you need not feare,
There is Douglas, and Lord Mortimer.

Arch. No, Mortimer is not there.

Sir M. But there is Mordake, Vernon, Lord Harry Percy,
And there is my Lord of Worcester, and a head
Of gallant warriors, noble gentlemen.

Arch. And so there is, but yet the king hath drawne
The speciall head of all the land together.
The Prince of Wales, Lord John of Lancaster,
The noble Westmerland, and walike Blunt,
And many mo courials and deare men
Of estimation, and command in armes.

Sir M. Doubt not, my L. they shall be well oppos'd.

Arch. I hope no lesse, yet, needfull it is to feare,
And to prevent the worst, sir Mighel, speed:

For if Lord Percy thriue not, e're the king

Dismisle his power, he meanes to visit vs,

For he hath heard of our confederacie,

And, t'is but wise dome, to make strong against him:

Therefore make haste, I must goe wring againe

To other friends, and so farewell, sir Mighel. *Exeunt.*

*Enter the King, Prince of Wales, Lord John of Lancaster, Earle
of Westmerland, Sir Walter Blunt, and Falstaffe.*

King. How bloudily the sunne begins to peare
Aboue yon busky hill, the day looks pale
At his distemperature.

Prin. The Southren wind
Doth play the trumpet to his purposes,
And, by his hollow whistling in the leaues,
Foretels a tempest and a blustering day.

King. Then, with the losers let it sympathize,
For nothing can seeme foule to those that winne.

The trumpet sounds, Enter Worcester.

King. How now, my Lord of Worcester? it is not wel,
That you and I should meet vpon such tearmes

34

of Henry the fourth.

As now we meet. You haue deceiu'd our trust,
And made vs doffe our easie robes of peace,
To crush our old limmes in vngentle Steele:
This is not well, my Lord, this is not well.
What say you to it? will you againe vnknit
This churlish knot of all abhorred war?
And moue in that obedient orbe againe,
Where you did giue a faire and naturall light,
And be no more an exhal'd meteor,
A prodigie of feare, and a portent
Of broched mischief to the vnborne times?

Wor. Heare me, my Liege:

For mine owne part, I could be well content,
To entertaine the lag end of my life
With quiet houres. For I protest,
I haue not sought the day of this dislike.

King. You haue not sought it: how comes it then?

Fal. Rebellion lay in his way, and he found it.

Prim. Peace, cheyvet, peace.

Wor. It pleas'd your maiestie to turne your looks
Of fauour, from my selfe, and all our house,
And yet I must remember you, my Lord:
We were the first and dearest of your friends,
For you my staffe of office did I breake
In Richards time, and posted day and night
To meet you on the way, and kisse your hand,
When yet you were in place and in account
Nothing so strong and fortunate as I.
It was my selfe, my brother and his sonne,
That brought you home, and boldly did outdate
The dangers of the time. You swore to vs,
And you did sweare that othe at Dancaster,
That you did nothing purpose gainst the state,
Nor claime no further, then your new false right,
The seat of Gaunt, Dukedome of Lancaster:
To this, we swore our aid; but in short space
It rained downe fortune showing on your head,
And such a floud of greatnesse fell on you,

The Historie

What with our helpe, what with the absents king,
 What with the iniuries of a wanton time,
 The seeming sufferances that you had borne,
 And the contrarious winds that held the king
 So long in his vn lucky Irish warre,
 That all in England did repute him dead:
 And from this swarme of false advantages,
 You tooke occasion to be quickly wooed
 To gripe the generall sway into your hand,
 Forgot your othe to vs at Dancaster,
 And being fed by vs, you vs do so,
 As that vngentle gull the Cuckowes bird
 Vseth the sparrow, did oppresse our neast,
 Grew by our feeding to so great a bulke,
 That euen our loue durst not come neer your sight,
 For feare of swallowing: but with simple wing
 We were enforced for safety sake, to flie
 Out of your sight, and raise this present head,
 Whereby we stand opposed by such memery,
 As you your selfe haue forg'd against your selfe
 By vnkind vsage, dangerous countenance,
 And violation of all faith and troth
 Sworne to vs in your yonger enterprize.

King. These things indeed you haue articulated,
 Proclaimed at market Crosse, read in Churches,
 To face the garment of rebellion,
 With some fine colour that may please the eye
 Of fickle changelings and poore discontent,
 Which gape and rub the elbow at the newes
 Of hurly burly innouation,
 And neuer yet did insurrection want
 Such water colours, to impaint his cause,
 Nor moody beggars, starting for a time,
 Of pell mell haucke and confusion.

Prin. In both your armies there is many a soule,
 Shall pay full dearly for this encounter,
 If once they ioyne in triall, tell your nephew,
 The Prince of Wales doth ioyne with a' the world

85

of Henry the fourth.

In praise of Henry Percie, by my hopes
This present interprise set off his head,
I doe not thinke a brauer Gentleman,
More actiue, valiant, or more valiant yong,
More daring, or more bold is now alive,
To grace this latter age with noble deedes:
For my part, I may speake it to my shame,
I haue a truant bene to chiuallrie,
And so I heare, he doth account me too;
Yet this before my fathers maiestie,
I am content, that he shall take the oddes
Of his great name and estimation,
And will, to saue the blood on either side,
Try fortune with him, in single fight.

King. And prince of Wales, so dare we venture thee,
Albeit, considerations infinite
Do make against it: no good Worcester, no
We loue our people well, euen those we loue
That are mislead vpon your coosen's part,
And will they take the offer of our grace,
Both he, and they, and you, yea euery man
Shall be my friend againe, and do be his,
So tell your coosen, and bring me word
What he will doe. But if he will not yeeld,
Rebuke and dread correction wait on vs,
And they shall doe their office. So be gone:
We will not now be troubled with reple,
We offer faire, take it aduisedly. *Exit Worcester.*

Prin. It will not be accepted on my life,
The Douglas and the Hotspur both together,
Are confident against the world in armes.

King. Hence therefore, euery leader to his charge,
For on their answere will we set on them,
And God befriend vs, as our cause is iust. *Exeunt: manent*

Fal. Hal, if thou set me downe in the battell *Prin. Falst.*
And bestride me, so, 'tis a poynt of friendship.

Prin. Nothing but a Colossus can doe thee that friendship,
Say thy prayers, and farewell.

The Historie

Fals. I would it were bed time, Hal, and all well.

Prince. Why? thou owest God a death.

Fals. T'is not due yet, I would be loth to pay him, before his day: what neede I be to forward with him that cals not on mee? Well, t'is no matter, honor prickes me on: yea, but how if honor pricke me off when I come on? how then? can honor set to a leg? no: or an arme? no: or take away the griefe of a wound? no: honor hath no skill in surgery then? no: What is honour? a worde: what is in that word? honor: what is that honour? ure: a trim reckoning. Who hath it? he that died a Wednesday, doth he feele it? no: doth he heare it? no: t'is insensible then? yea: to the dead: but will it not lue with the liuing? no: why? detraction will not suffer it, therefore ile none of it, honor is a meere skutchion, and so ends my Catechisme.

Exit.

Enter Worcester, and sir Richard Vernon.

Wor. O no, my nephew must not know, sir Richard,
The liberall kinde offer of the king.

Ver. T'were best he did.

Wor. Then are we all vnder one.

It is not possible: it cannot be
The king should keepe his word in louing vs,
He will suspect vs still, and finde a time
To punish this offence in other faults,
Supposition, al our liues shall be stucke full of eyes,
For treason is but trusted like the Foxe,
Who neuer so taine, so cherish't and lockt vp,
Will haue a wilde trick of his ancesters:
Looke how we can, or sad or merily;
Interpretation will misquote our lookes,
And we shall feed like oxen at a stall,
The better cherisht, still the neerer death.
My nephews trespasse may be well forgot,
It hath the excuse of youth and heat of blood,
And an adopted name of priuledge,
A hair-brain'd Hoospur govern'd by a spleene:
All his offences lue vpon my head
And on his fathers. We did traine him on,
And his corruption being tane from vs,

We

of Henry the fourth.

We as the spring of all shall pay for all:
Therefore good coosen, let not Harry know,
In any case the offer of the king. *Enter Hotspur.*

Ho. Deliuere what you will, he sayt 'is so. Here comes your coose.

Hot. My vnckle is return'd.

Deliuere vp my Lord of Westmerland.

Vnckle, what newes.

Wor. The king will bid you battel presently.

Doug. Defie him by the Lord of Westmerland.

Hot. Lord Douglas, goe you and tell him so.

Don. Marry and I hal, and very willingly. *Exit Doug.*

Wor. There is no seeming mercy in the king.

Hot. Did you beg any? God forbid.

Wor. I tolde him gently of our grieuances,

Of his oth breaking, which he mended thus

By now forswearing that he is forsworne,

He call vs, rebels, traitors, and will scourge

With haucie armes, this hatefull name in vs. *Enter Douglas.*

Don. Arme, gentlemen, to armes: for I haue throwne

A braue defiance in king Henries teeth,

And Westmerland that was ingag'd did beare it,

Which cannot chuse but bring him quickly on.

Wor. The Prince of Wales stept forth before the king,

And, nephew, chaleng'd you to single fight.

Hot. O, would the quarrel lay vpon our heads,

And that no man might draw short breath to day,

But I and Harry Monmouth: tell me, tell me,

How shewed his talking? seemed it in contempt?

Ver. No, by my soule I neuer in my life,

Did heare a challenge vrg'd more modestly,

Vnlesse a brother should a brother dare,

To gentle exercise and prooffe of Armes.

He gaue you all the dueties of a man,

Trim'd vp your praises with a Princely tongue,

Spoke your desertings like a Chronicle,

Making you euer better then his prayse,

By still dispraising praise valued with you,

And which became him like a prince indeed,

He

The Historie

He made a blushing citall of himselfe.
 And chid his truant, ~~but~~ with such a grace,
 As if he mastered there a double spirit
 Of teaching and of learning instantly:
 There did he pause; but let me tell the world,
 If he outliue the enue of this day,
 England did neuer owe so sweete a hope
 So much misconstrued in his wantonnesse.

Hor. Coosen, I thinke thou art enamored
 On his follies: neuer did I heare
 Of any prince so wilful heere:
 But be he as he will, or once e're night,
 I will embrace him with a soldiers arme,
 That he shall shrink vnder my courtesie.
 Arme, arme with speed, and fellowes, soldiers, friendes,
 Better consider what you haue to do,
 Then I that haue not wel the gift of tongue
 Can brooke blood vp with perswasion. *Enter a messenger.*

Mes. My Lord, heere are letters for you.

Hor. I can not read them now.

O, Gentlemen, the time of liue is short:
 To spend that short time basely, were too long,
 If life ~~doe~~ ride upon a diall poine,
 Still ending at the arrivall of an houre,
 And if we liue, we liue to tread on kings,
 If die, braue death when princes die with vs.
 Now for our consciences, the armes are faire,
 When the intent of bearing them is iust. *Enter another.*

Mes. My Lord, prepare, the king comes on apace.

Hor. I thanke him, that he cuts me from my tale:
 For I professe not talking, onely this,
 Let each man doe his best, and here draw I my sword,
 Whose temper I intend to steele
 With the best blood that I can meet withall,
 In the aduerture of this perillous day:
 Now esperance Percy, and let on,
 Sound all the lottie instruments of war,
 And by that Musick let vs all embrace,

For

of Henry the fourth.

For heaven to earth, some of vs neuer shall
A second time doe such a countelic.

Here they embrace, the trumpets sound, the king enters with his power, alarme to the battell, then enter Douglas, and Sir Walter Blunt.

Blunt. What is thy name, that in battell thus thou crosest me?
What honour dost thou seeke vpon my head?

Doug. Know then, my name is Douglas,
And I doe haunt thee in the battell thus,
Because some tell me that thou art a king.

Blunt. They tell thee true.

Doug. The Lord of Stafford deere to day hath bought
Thy likenesse, for instead of thee, King Harry,
This sword hath ended him, so shall it thee,
Vnlesse thou yeeld thee as my prisoner.

Blunt. I was not borne a yeelder, thou proud Scot:
And thou shalt find a king that will reuenge
Lord Staffords death.

They fight, Douglas kills Blunt, then enter Hotspur.

Hot. O Douglas, hadst thou fought at Holmedon thus,
I neuer had triumpht vpon a Scot.

Doug. Als done, als won: here breathles lyes the king.

Hot. Where?

Doug. Here.

Hot. This, Douglas? no, I know this face full well,
A gallant knight he was, his name was Blunt,
Semblably furnish't like the king himself.

Doug. Ah foole, goe with thy soule whither it goes,
A borrowed title hast thou bought too deare,
Why didst thou tel me, that thou wert a king?

Hot. The king hath many marching in his coates,

Doug. Now by my sword, I will kill all his coates:
Ile murder all his wardrobe, piece by piece,
Vntill I meete the king.

Hot. Vp, and away,

Our souldiers stand full fairely for the day.

Alarme, Enter Falstaffe folus.

Fal. Though I could scape shot-free at London, I feare the
shot here, here's no scoring but vpo the pate. Soft, who are you?
sir Walter Blunt, ther's honor for you, here's no vanity: I am as

The Historie

hot as molten lead, & as heavy too: God keepe lead out of me,
I need no more weight then mine owne bowels. I haue led my
rag of Muffins where they are pepperd: there's not three of my
150. left aliuē, and they are for the townes end, to beg during
life: but who comes here?

Enter the Prince.

Prin. What, standst thou idle here? lend me thy sword.
Many a noble man lies starke and stiffe,
Vnder the hooues of vaunting enemies,
Whose deaths are yet vnreueg'd. I prethee lend me thy sword.

Fal. O Hal, I prethee giue me leaue to breathe a while: Turke
Gregorie neuer did such deeds in armes, as I haue done this
day, I haue paid Percy, I haue made him sure.

Prin. He is indeed, and luing to kill thee:
I prethee lend me thy sword.

Fal. Nay, before God, Hal, if Percy be aliuē, thou getst not
my sword, but take my pistoll if thou wilt.

Prin. Giue it me: what is it in the case?

Fal. I Hal, 't is hot, 't is hot, there's that will sacke a Citie.

The Prince drawes it out, and finds it to be a bottle of Sacke.

Prin. What, is it a time to iest and dally now?

He throwes the bottle at him.

Exit.

Fal. Well, if Percy be aliuē, ile pierce him, if he doe come
in my way: so, if hee doe not, if I come in his willingly, let him
make a Carbonado of me. I like not such gunning hono^r: as Sir
Walter hath: giue me life, which if I can saue, so: if not, ho-
nour comes vnlookt for, and there's an end.

*Alarme, excursions, Enter the King, the Prince, Lord Iohn
of Lancaster, and Earle of Westmerland.*

King. I prethee Harry, withdraw thy selfe, thou bledest too
much, Lord Iohn of Lancaster, go you with him.

P. Iohn. Not I, my Lord, vnlesse I did bleed too.

Prin. I beseech your Maestie, make vp,
Least your retirement doe amaze your friends. *(tent.*

King. I will doe so: my Lord of Westmerland, lead him to his
West. Come, my Lord, ile lead you to your tent.

Prin. Lead me, my Lord: I doe not need your helpe,
And God forbid a shallow scratch should driue

The

38
of Henry the fourth.

The Prince of Wales from such a field as this,
Where stain'd nobilitie lies troden on,
And rebels armes triumph in massacres.

Iob. We breathe too long, come, coosen Westmerlād,
Our duetie this way lies: For Gods sake come.

Prin. By God, thou hast deceiv'd me, Lancaster.
I did not thinke thee Lord of such a spirit:
Before, I lou'd thee as a brother Iohn,
But now, I doe respect thee as my soule.

King. I saw him holde Lord Percy at the point,
With lustier maintenance then I did looke for
Of such an vngrowne warrior.

Prin. O, this boy lends metall to vs all. *Exit.*

Doug. Another king, they grow like Hydras heads,
I am the Douglas, fatall to all those
That weare those colours on them. What art thou
That counterfetst the person of a king?

King. The king himself, who Douglas grieues at heart,
So many of his shadowes thou hast met
And not the very king: I haue two boyes
Seeke Percie and thy selfe about the field,
But seeing thou fallest on me so luckily,
I will assay thee, and defend thy selfe.

Doug. I feare thou art another counterfet,
And yet, in faith, thou bearest thee like a king.
But mine, I am sure, thou art, who'er's thou be:
And thus I winne thee.

They fight, the King being in danger, Enter Prince of Wales.

Prin. Hold vp thy head, vile Scot, or thou art like
Neuer to hold it vp againe, the spirits
Of valiant Sherly, Stafford, Blunt, are in my armes:
It is the Prince of Wales, that threatens thee,
Who neuer promiseth, but he meanes to pay.

They fight, Douglas flieth.

Cheerely, my Lord, how fares your grace?
Sir Nicholas Gawsey hath for succour sent,
And so hath Clifton: ile go Clifton straight.

King. Stay, and breathe a while:

The Historic

Thou hast redeemed thy lost opinion,
And shew'd thou makelt some tender of my life,
In this faire rescue thou hast brought to me;

Prin. O God, they did me too much iniurie,
That euer said, I harkened for your death,
If it were so, I might haue let alone
The insulting hand of Douglas ouer you,
Which would haue beene as speedy in your end,
As all the poisonous potions in the world,
And sau'd the trecherous labour of your sonne.

King. Make vp to Clifton, ile to S. Nicholas Gawsey. *Exit. Kⁿ.*

Enter Hotspur.

Hot. If I mistake not, thou art Harry Monmouth.

Prin. Thou speakst, as if I would deny my name.

Hot. My name is Harry Percy.

Prin. Why, then I see a very valiant rebell of the name;
I am the Prince of Wales, and thinke not, Percy,
To share with me in glory any more:
Two stars keepe not their motion in one sphere,
Nor can one England brooke a double raigne
Of Harry Percy, and the Prince of Wales.

Hot. Now, shall it, Harry? for the houre is come,
To end the one of vs, and would to God
Thy name in armes, were now as great as mine.

Prin. Ile make it greater, e're I part from thee,
And all the budding honours on thy crest,
Ile crop to make a garland for my head.

Hot. I can no longer brooke thy vanities.

They fight: Enter Falstaffe.

Fal. Well said, Hal, to it, Hal. Nay, you shall find no boyes
play here, I can tell you.

*Enter Douglas, he fighteth with Falstaffe, he falleth
downe as if he were dead, the Prince
killeth Percy.*

Hot. Oh Harry, thou hast rob'd me of my youth,
I better brooke the losse of brittle life,
Then those proud titles thou hast won of me,

They

of Henry the fourth.

They wound my thoughts, worse then thy sword my flesh:
But thought's the slaue of life, and life times foole,
And time that takes suruay of all the world,
Must haue a stop. O, I could prophetic,
But that the earth and cold hand of death
Lies on my tongue : no Percy, thou art dust
And food for.

Prin. For wormes, braue Percy. Fare thee well, great heart,
Ill weau'd ambition, howe much art thou shrunke :
When that this body did containe a spirit,
A kingdome for it was too small a bound,
But now two paces of the vilest earth
Is roome inough: this earth that beares the dead,
Beares not aliue so stoute a gentleman,
If thou wert sensible of curtesie,
I should not make so great a shew of zeale:
But let my fauours hide thy mangled face,
And euen in thy behalfe ile thanke my selfe,
For doing these faire rites of tendernesse.
Adiew, and take thy praise with thee to heauen,
Thy ignominy sleepe with thee in the graue,
But not remembred in thy Epitaph.

He spieth Falstaffe on the ground.
What, old acquaintance! could not all this flesh
Keepe in a little life? poore Iacke, farewell,
I could haue better spar'd a better man.
O, I should haue a heauie misse of thee,
If I were much in loue with vanitie :
Death hath not strooke so faire a Deere to day,
Though many dearer, in this bloody fray.
Inbowel'd will I see thee by and by,
Till then, in blood by noble Percie lie. *Exit.*

Falstaffe riseth vp.

Fal. Inbowel'd? if thou inbowel me to day, ile giue you leaue
to powder me and eate me too to morrowe. Zblood, tw'as time
to counterfet, or that hottermagant Scot had paid me scot and
lot too. Counterfet? I lie, I am no counterfet: to die is to bee a
counterfet, for he is but the counterfet of a man, who hath not

The Historie

the life of a man: butto counterfet dying when a man thereby liueth, is to be no counterfet, but the true and perfect image of life indeed. The better part of valour is discretion, in the which better part I haue saued my life. Zounds I am afraid of this gunpowder Percy, though he be dead: how if he should cōterfet too and rise: by my faith, I am afraid hee would proue the better counterfet: therefore ile make him sure, yea and ile swear I kild him. Why may not he rise as well as I? nothing confutes me but eyes, and no body sees me: therefore sirra, with a new wound in your thigh, come you along with me.

He takes vp Hotspur on his backe. Enter Prince and Iohn of Lancaster.

Prin. Come, brother Iohn, ful brauely hast thou flesh't Thy mayden sword.

Iohn. But soft, whom haue we heare?

Did you not tell me, this fat man was dead?

Prin. I did, I saw him dead,

Breathles and bleeding on the ground. Art thou aliue?

Or is it fantasie that playes vpon our eyesight?

I prethee speake, we will not trust our eyes

Without our eares, thou art not what thou seem'st.

Fal. No, that's certaine, I am not a double man: but if I bee not Iacke Falstaffe, then am I a Iacke: there is Percie, if your father will doe me any honour, so: if not, let him kill the next Percie himselfe: I looke to be either Earle or Duke, I can assure you.

Prin. Why, Percie I kild my selfe, and saw thee dead.

Fal. Didst thou? Lord, Lord, how this world is giuen to lying. I graunt you, I was downe, and out of breath, and so was he, but we rose both at an instant, and fought a long houre by Shrewesburie clocke, if I may be beleeu'd so: if not, let them that should rewarde valour, beare the sinne vpon their owne heads. Ile take it vpon my death I gaue him this wound in the thigh: if the man were aliue, and would denie it, Zounds I would make him eate a piece of my sword.

Iohn. This is the strangest tale, that euer I heard.

Prin. This is the strangest fellow, brother Iohn, Come bring your luggage nobly on your backe.

of Henry the fourth.

For my part, if a lie may doe thee grace,
Ile giue it with the happiest termes I haue,

A retraite is sounded.

Prin. The Trumpet sounds retrait, the day is ours.
Come, brother, let vs to the highest of the field,
To see what friends are liuing, who are dead.

Exeunt.

Fal. Ile follow, as they say, for reward. Hee that rewardes me,
God reward him. If I doe growe great, ile growe lesse, for ile
purge and leaue Sacke, and liue cleanelly as a noble man
I should do.

Exit.

*The Trumpets sound. Enter the King, Prince of Wales, Lord
Iohn of Lancaster, Earle of Westmerland, with Worcester,
and Vernon, prisoners.*

King. Thus euer did rebellion find rebuke.
Ill spirited Worcester, did not we send grace,
Pardon, and termes of loue to all of you?
And wouldst thou turne our offers contrary,
Misuse the tenor of thy kinsmans trust?
Three knights vpon our partie slaine to day,
A noble Earle and many a creature else,
Had bene alive this houre,
If like a Christian thou hadst truely borne
Betwixt our armies true intelligence.

Wor. What I haue done, my safety vrg'd mee to:
And I embrace this fortune patiently,
Since not to be auoyded it fals on me.

King. Beare Worcester to the death, and Vernon too:
Other offenders we will pause vpon.
How goes the field?

Prin. The noble Scot, Lord Douglas, when he saw
The fortune of the day quite turn'd from him,
The noble Percie slaine, and all his men
Vpon the foote of feare, fled with the rest:
And falling from a hill, he was so brus'd,
That the pursuers tooke him. At my tent
The Douglas is: and I beseech your grace
I may dispose of him.

King.

The Historic, &c.

King. With all my heart.

Prin. Then, brother Iohn of Lancaster,
To you this honourable bounty shall belong,
Goe to the Douglas, and deliuer him
Vp to his pleasure, ransomelesse and free:
His valours shew'n vpon our Crests to day,
Haue taught vs how to cherish such high deeds,
Euen in the bosome of our aduersaries.

Iohn. I thanke your grace for this high curtesie,
Which I shall giue away immediatly.

King. Then this remaines, that we deuide our power,
You sonne Iohn, and my coosen Westmerland
Towards Yorke shall bend, you with your deereft speed
To meet Northumberland and the Prelate Scroope,
Who, as we heare, are busily in armes:
My selfe, and you, sonne Harry, will towards Wales,
To fight with Glendower and the Earle of March,
Rebellion in this land shall lose his sway,
Meeting the checke of such another day.
And, since this businesse so faire is done,
Let vs not leaue, till all our owne be won.

Exeunt.

FINIS.



